

**A iustification or cleering of the Prince of Orendge  
agaynst the false sclaunders,  
wherwith his ilwillers goe  
about to charge him  
wrongfully.**

*Psalm. 17.*

**The malicious person layeth wayte for the  
righteous, and seeketh hym to put hym to  
death. But the Lorde wyll not leaue  
hym vp into his handes, nor ac-  
count hym for an offender,  
though he be taken for  
such a one.**

*Psal. 5.*

**Thou wyll destroye them that speake lyes,  
The Lorde abhorreth the murtherer and  
the deceyuer. Lord leade me forth in  
thy righteousnesse, because of  
thē that lye in wayt for me.**

*Psal. xciiij.*

**They imbattell them selues agaynst the soule  
of the righteous, and condemne the gylt-  
lesse bloud. But the Lord wyl be my  
defence, and my God shalbe  
the rocke of my truste.**

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# To the Reader.



He thynges  
( among o-  
ther ) that  
are cheefly  
to be cōside-  
red, in this  
Iustification  
of a moste  
rightful case  
and innocēt  
person, against vniust slaunders and slaun-  
derers: are the vnmeasurable crueltie and  
untolerable trechery of the Papistes. Who  
to maynteine the wrongfull authoritie of  
their tyrannous kingdome, agaynst God  
and his Christ, and agaynst the Maiestie  
of lawfull Princes, whom God hath ad-  
uanced to Souereintie for the maynte-  
naunce of his trew Religion, and for the  
welfare of the people committed to theyr  
charge: do so stoppe the eares and blynd  
the eyes of Princes with their horrible  
leazynges ( where they take place and  
beare sway ) : as they nother can see the  
Wrongs done to their subiectes by those  
ministers of Antichrist, nor herken to  
their

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their iust complayntes, that they might  
understand them and redresse them. For  
Whereas they themselves hauyng shaken  
of al obedience towards God and his Mi-  
nisters, and confounded the generall bonds  
of naturall and cōmon reason, do both re-  
siste all law and lawfull Magistrates, and  
also (as much as in them lyeth) inforce  
men either to most miserable thraldome,  
(of conscience by forsaking God and all  
godlynesse, and of body by losse of goodes,  
landes, libertie, wiues, children, iyse, and  
good name) or to some meanes to with-  
stand so extreme wretchednesse whereun-  
to they driue them by streyning them be-  
yond all abilitie of humane patience: yit  
most slaunderously they beare the states  
and potentates of the world on hand, that  
those most innocent and guiltlesse persons,  
(whiche stand in nothyng but onely that  
which their Prince hath both graunted  
and sware that it should bee lawfull for  
them to do, and in such wise as he by lyke  
graunt and othe hath giuē them leaue and  
commaundement to do, as appeereth most  
evidently by his solemne Protestation and  
vowe made at the tyme of his ioyfull en-  
try,



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try, When he was first admitted to the superiority of those countreyes, at the earnest request and intreatance of the late Emperour Charles his father, who made the lyke solemue othe Protestation and vowe before him and with him: ) are the authors, practizers and workers, of all disorders, confusions, mutinies, uprores, troubles, rebellions, and treazons; only bycause that after suffrance of their excessiue tormēts, & the thrustyng of thē out of their native countreys: they giue them not leaue to tread thē utterly under foot as myre, or rather to rid thē quite & cleane out of the World, with the Gospell and Religion of Christ. Which thyng they could not doe, if the Princes whō the Romish Antichrist holdeth yit captiue in the prison of superstitious ignorance, would voutsafe but only to stand as indifferent Iudges, and to make that simple account of them, which euen comō reason would they should, that is to wit, as of their subiectes. For no rightuous Iudge condemneth without heering the allegatiōs of both parties, nother doth any rightfull Prince permit his subiectes to reuenge their owne Wrongs, and much lesse

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lesse to oppresse, deuour, and eat up one another. Therefore when the hartes of the Souereine liege Lordes are so shet vppe, and their myndes so alienated aforehād, by the sinister perswasions of cankerharted Papistes and sly Sycophantes, which care not whose house be on fire so they may warme themselves by the coales of it, as no truth can haue enterance into their eares or accessse into their presence: needes must the people go to wrecke to the preiudice of the Prince, and the people being so wronged cā not but secke to iustifie the right and truth of their cace, by all good and reasonable meanes, to the church of God, and vnto all such as are not so wholly caried away with blynd and fantasticall affection, but that they haue some abilitie to discerne right and equitie: as may appeere by the treatise heere insewyng. For heere is nothyng sayd or intended to the defence, maintenance or allowyng of any disobedience, disorder, or unlawfull behauiour of the subiect towards his Prince: but to shewe most humbly and dewtifully both to Prince and subiect, the intolerable incōueniences that grow by neglecting the mutuall regard that eche of them

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*them ought to haue of other, and by the permittyng of Papistes to intrude themselves into suche state of credite and authoritie, as they may be able to inforce a Gouvernement to the upholdyng of their owne kingdome.*

*And forasmuch as in this treatise there is mention made of a Ioyfull Entrey: it is necessarie to know what the same was. Therefore it is to be understode, that when soeuer any souereine Lord entered into the possession of dominion ouer the Low Countreys, whither it were by name of Earle, Duke, or any other title of superioritie: by succession, election, or otherwise: he first tooke a sacred and solemne othe, to mainteyne the Lawes, Statutes, Customes, Liberties, and Priuiledges of those Countreys, and not to procure, cause, suffer, or permitte the infrindging, breaking, abrogating, disanulling, impeaching, or altering of them or any of them, or the bringing in, setting vppe, or stablishing of any new, without the consent, counsell, aduice, and agreement of the states of the same Countrey, to the benefite and commoditie of the people: before the whiche othe hee*  
*Was*



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Was in no wise allowed or acknowledged as Lord there. By reason wherof, Charles the Emperour, and his sonne Philippe nowe king of Spayne, to stablish the continuance of their possession in those Countreys, as their predecessours had alwayes done at their first Entryes: did lately make solemne and faithfull promis, Protestation, vowe, and othe, as well for their heyres and successours as for themselves, that besides their maynteinyng of the common weale, peace, rest, quietnesse, tranquillitie, and securitie of those Countreys: they and euery of them should and would keepe, obserue, and performe all the auncient customes, Lawes, Statutes, Liberties, and Priuiledges of the same inuiolable, and not bryng in any new customes or orders, or suffer any to be brought in: nor set any Gouverner, Magistrate or Officer ouer them or in authoritie among them, beyng not the same Countreyman borne and hauing landes goodes or possessions there: nor call any assembly of the States, nor cause any leuying of money or men of warre: nor any coyning of money to bee made there, without the consent and aduice of  
the

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*the States of the same Countrie. And for the more confirmatiō and assurance thereof: after the rehearsall of the particular poyntes and Articles of the said Entrie, (whiche are many) they added in effecte this conclusion folowing: That if they, their heyres, or successors shall by themselves, or by any other, either wholly or partly, doo, or cause to be done, any thing contrary or preiudiciall to the premisses, after what sort soeuer it be: they consent, agree, and graunt to their Prelates, Barōs, Knights, Townes, Cities, Liberties, and all other their subiectes, that then and from thencefoorth they shall not doo to thē, their heyres or successors any kind of seruise, nor owe them any duetie of alleageāce, nor obey thē in any matters wherein they shal haue neede of them, or which they shall desire or require at their handes, unlesse that upon reconciliation, satisfactiō, and attonemēt, they be by the states of the same Countreies accepted new againe. And to the same intent they decreed and ordeyned, that all officers appoynted or placed contrary to the faythful purport and true meanyng of this their sayd Entrie, should be discharged & dis-*

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displaced: and likewise that what soever thing were or should be done or attempted in preiudice or impeachment of the premisses, should be esteemed as voyde and of none effecte. In witnessse and everlastyng confirmation whereof, the said Emperour & the Prince his sonne did set their handes and seales to the sayd othe in writyng, at Louane the fift day of Iuly. 1549. And this is it that is called the ioyful entrie. Whereby, and by many pre-sidentes of their stories, ( whiche make mention how the people of those Countries haue refused, renounced, reiected, remo-ued, and depozed diuers of their Lords & soueraignes for their misgouernment, and for infrindging their sayd othe: and in their places elected, appoynted, set vp, and established others, of whose Iustice they had better opinion and likelyhood: Which thying notwithstanding they haue not v-sed to doo, but upon most urgent and ex-treme necessitie, after long sufferance and seking of redresse by all reasonable meanes With most duetifull intreatance, submis-sion, supplication, and humilitie: ) It may playnly appeare, that the state of the lowe  
Conn-

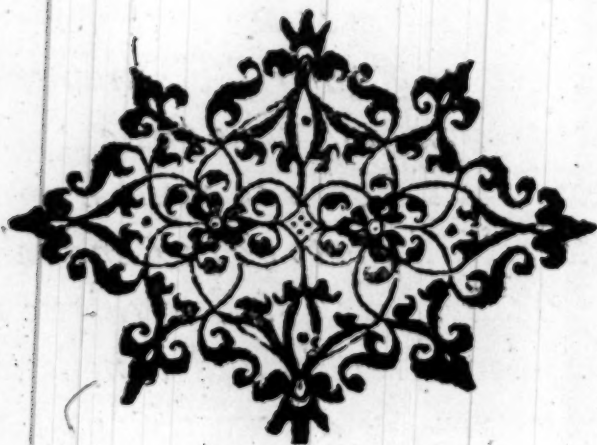


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*Countreys is not an absolute Monarchie or heritable kingdome, after the maner of this Realme, and of Fraunce, and such other like : but a State with condition, terminable, and not to continue any longer than the Lorde whom they doo so accept, upon hope of his good gouernment, dooth continue in reinyng and rulyng accor- dyng to his oth taken at his entrie. Which if he violate, then are they by the same his othe discharged of their subiection and obedience to hym, and haue full authoritie and free libertie both to resist hym and his Officers, and also to chooze and take to them any other head or Soueraigne that wyll be more frendly and beneficiall to their Countrey, as appeareth by that solemne and autentike deede of Duke Iohn, dated at Louane the fourth of Maye. 1420. and by diuers other Records to the same effecte. Whereupon it foloweth, that this Iustificatiõ of the Prince of Orendge, and of suche as take his parte, and of the cace wherein they stande, is most iust and rightfull euen in these respectes, though there were no further proofes, wberof notwithstanding there are very many in this*  
trea-

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*treatise following. Thus I commyt thee  
to God, who giue thee the spirite of iudge-  
ment, to discerne accordyng to truth, that  
thou be not lead into errorr, to allowe the  
thyng that is euyll, or to condemne the  
thyng that is good.*



# A Iustification of the Prince of Orendge, against his sclaunderers.



Such as haue experience of the assayes of states and common weales, are wel able to discerne them that seeke to trouble the tranquillitie and quiet of the publike weale, through ambition and desire of priuate commoditie, and doo take all maner of strange and vnaccustomed kinde of dealyns, which me of power, credite, and authoritie doo vse, to bee sure and infallible tokens of lyke driftes. And therefore to shewe who haue bin the chiefe ringleaders and authours of the troubles that haue happened in the low Countrey: the onely thyng to be considered, is, who they were that had cause to desire inuouation in that Countrey, for any commoditie or profit which they looked for, and were the first beginners and putters therof in execution.

For the doing wherof, in my opinion it is necessarie to set downe the state of the sayd low Countrey, in such wise as it was befoze the late troubles, and after the warres, whiche as well the late



right high and renoumed Emperour Charles, as the kyng of Spaine, Princes of the same lowe Countrey, and soveraign Lordes of the subiectes there, maynteyned in maner continually by the space of ten yeares together, against the French king. which state was such, that although in the meane season the people were in some vnquietnesse, by reason of the Inquisition and Iniunctions that were obserued in diuers Prouinces in the case of Religion, whiche vnquietnesse augmented dayly more and more through the increase of the Religion, and through the rigour of the Iniunctions <sup>a</sup> (which grew so extreme, and so farre out of all square, as it was a woonder that they were suffered and borne withal so long tyme, and so patiently in so freee a Countrey,) as shalbe declared hereafter: yet notwithstanding it was evidently seene, that in all other respectes the subiectes were ready, not onely to yeelde al due obedience, but also to spend their bodyes and goodes for his maiesties sake.

For the Nobilitie behaued themselves with incredible courage and forwardnesse in the sayd warres, and the States of the Countrey dyd freely and of their own accord geue an incredible

a It appeareth by the Iniunctions put forth in the yeares, 1521. 1526. 1529. 1531. 40. 44. 46. 50. 56. and others.

bible masse of money towards the charges thereof, amountinge fully to the summe of fourty millions of fflorens: & that so wyllyngly, as there was neuer any signe of inlikyng perceyued for the matter: by reason wherof it might wel haue bene thought, that the Countrey was so affectioned towarde his maiestie, as they would not haue spared any thyng for the mayntenaunce of his state and honour against his enemyes. And therefore his maiestie might easily thereby assure hym selfe thereof against all foireyne powers.

And for as muche as it is a naturall thyng, that all great seruices and well dooinges shoulde ingender truste: it could not be, but that the said countrey, (namely the noble men in consideration that by their peril, bloudshed, & pro-  
 wesse his maiestie had atchieued so many honourable victories, and the commons, for that he had dispatched so long and tedious a warre with so great honour, by their succour, ayde, and assistance,) must needes be in great hope that his maiestie would haue regard of their so great duetifulnesse and notable seruice, whē so ever occasion were offered. By meanes whereof a man might also haue openly warranted the Countrey

B. ij.

trey

freely from al inward troubles and commotions.

For when the subiecte can looke for nothyng but well at his Princes hand, he continueth the more wyllyngly and earnestly in his obedience. So that considering how the state of the Countrey flourished by the intercourse of al kindes of trafique and marchaundise, and of all other thyngs dependyng therupon: although it were sore nipped by the former warres, and ouercharged, & in manner oppressed with tallages, imposts, and exactions layde vpon them by reason of the said summes of money, which they had graunted to be leuyed for the charge of the sayd warres: yet is it most apparant, y<sup>e</sup> beyng sure fro enemies without, and vnited with their Prince within, and mainteined with priuiledges & ordinaunces accordyng to the tyme, it would not onely haue bin refreshed & set cleare, & discharged of all dettes, but also haue attained to y<sup>e</sup> top of all worldly felicitie within few yeares.

By meanes wherof his Maiestie commyng to bec renowned and feared of straungers: and to be reuerenced & loued of his subiectes, might haue bin taken for the greatest kyng & happiest Prince of his time. In somuch as it must nedes  
be



be confessed, that they whiche haue bin  
 the hinderers of this prosperitie & hap=  
 py state, by breakyng the sayd vnion, &  
 by turnyng away the sayd affectiō, haue  
 comitted so great an offence to the do=  
 mage of his Maiestie and of the cōmon  
 weale, that they deserue to be punished  
 and chastised to the example of others.  
 And I beleue, that all such as see the  
 cōlletrey at this presēt, how it is brought  
 from so apparaunt felicitie, to extreme  
 wretchednesse, bōdage, and miserie, wil=  
 be of myne opinion, and iudge as I do.  
 And we William of Nassaw Prince of O=  
 rédge beyng takē for the & authoꝝ of this  
 alteration, by the Attourney generall,  
 accordyng to the letters patētes of sum=  
 mons & citation, refuse not the sayd pu=  
 nishment, in case that the suggestion of  
 the said Attourney be true. who to pre=  
 tend some cause and occasion that might  
 haue prouoked vs thereto, and hauyng  
 not any likelyhode that wee would en=  
 terpryse it without cause: alledgeth that  
 our ambition and vnoxdinate desire of  
 authoritie was the cause of it. wherupō  
 it followeth that the finall cause of our  
 doings and attēptes should be honour,  
 desire of dealynges and extraordinarie  
 authoritie.

But to bereue the Attourney of that

B. iii.

ground,

b It appea=  
 reth by the  
 writ of Sū=  
 mones da=  
 ted the xix.  
 of Ianuary  
 and by the  
 Proclama=  
 tion the 24.  
 of the same  
 moneth in=  
 serted in the  
 end hereof.

grosid, wherupon he pretēdeth to build his accusatiō : it might suffice for such as are acquaynted with our person , to alledge myne owne naturall disposition, whiche is nothyng inclined to such desires : and for other men , to alledge the portion of worldly substaunce, wherewith God of his grace hath indewd vs by good gouernment & order, wherethrough we might rather hope for aduancemēt and authoritie, then by any other kynde of dealynges . For all men must needes graūt, that to get vs home to our owne house and to liue priuately, was a much better meane to gather treasure and riches, wherby to get, preserve, and mainteine authoritie: than to spend wastefully in the Court in hope thereof by vsurping superiozitie vpo vs. For they that haue any vnderstandyng at all of our dealynges , do know very well that I neuer passed for any superiozitie. And in asmuch as the cōtrey is so affectionate to his maiestie, as is said afore, there is nothing more vnlkly thā to charge vs with intent of vsurpation, aboue the authoritie of hym and of the countrey.

Specially seyng I was alwayes of opiniō, that his Maiestie should rather keepe still his subiects in the sayd loue & good

good wil, by mitigating of his Edictes,  
 than turne them away from it, by pro-  
 ceedyng with newe deuises of rigour,  
 which is the only point & meane wher-  
 by it might haue bene pretēded, that we  
 would haue attempned to the foresaid at-  
 tempt. For it cannot be denied, but that  
 loue & good wil are the meanes wher-  
 by a Prince may mainteine his autho-  
 ritie and keepe his countrey. And ther-  
 fore it must needes be confessed, that in  
 being of that opiniō, we sought the pre-  
 seruatiō of his Maiestie, and not the u-  
 surpyng of authoritie ouer him. Now  
 the whereas others were of opiniō that  
 it was more expedient that his state  
 should be maintained by rigour; it fol-  
 loweth of necessitie that I was of con-  
 trary opinion vnto them, onely as tou-  
 ching the meane of the maynteyning  
 thereof; but not as touchyng the mainte-  
 nance and preservation it selfe, which  
 thing experience sheweth to be imposs-  
 ble to be done by rigour, so long as the  
 foresaid countreys continue in this ap-  
 paraunt prosperitie, wherein my desire  
 was that they should haue bene main-  
 teined, vnder his Maiesties iurisdiction  
 whiche thyng was (next Gods seruice)  
 the onely cause that I allowed not y<sup>e</sup> ri-  
 gour of the foresayd Inquisitiō & Edictes.

B. iij.

Wher-



c It appea-  
reth by the  
commissiōs  
dispatched  
therupō and  
sent backe  
agayne. An.  
1558.

wherof all our other doynges also  
will beare record, in that they be aliena-  
ted or rather cleane contrary to all am-  
bition. For even befoze that time, I had  
giuē ouer my roome which I had in the  
Counsell of State, & the office of Lord  
Treasurer & apparant places to witte the  
attendance & sute of all the States, yea &  
to bying as it were the ouerrulping of  
all affaires to my hands, if I had listid,  
& whereof other men had so good skill  
to make their owne gayne. But God be  
thanked, I was so farre of froe such mea-  
nyng, that when I saw I could not do  
his Maiestie good seruice in those offi-  
ces as I would faine haue done, by rea-  
son of the practises of other men that let-  
ted me: I surrendered the both into his  
handes. And yet notwithstanding, like  
as his Maiestie after our sayd demeas-  
nour, and vpon the surrender of our com-  
missions, left not to call vs often tymes  
to counsell; so we on our part haue dis-  
charged our selues as much as is possi-  
ble, in counsellpung him what we thought  
best for his seruice, and for the benefite  
of the countrey. And it was a great hart-  
breaking to vs, to see that a two or three  
persons should so ouerthrow his Ma-  
iesties good meanyng.

Neuerthelesse whereas his Maiesty  
hauing

hauing knowe the sinceritie of my dea-  
lynge, and my forwardnesse in his ser-  
uice of all that tyme, and beyng then in  
Zeland on his way towardes Spayne,  
intreated me very earnestly to take vpo  
me agayne the state of a Counseller: I  
after much excusing of my selfe, obeyed  
him. Howbeit when I sawe afterward,  
that thyngs kept on their woted trade,  
and went farre otherwise than his Ma-  
iestie had put me in hope of: I sewed to  
be put of againe about a ij. yeares after.

4. And forasmuch as I sawe them inde-  
uer by all meanes to bryng the coun-  
trei to bondage, (which some me terme  
full obedience) as shalbe shewed hereaf-  
ter: bycause I would haue no occasiō to  
deale with that poynt, which seemed to  
tend wholly to the hinderaunce of his  
Majestie and of the common weale: I  
made the more earnest sute and intrea-  
taunce to be discharged of my gouerne-  
ment, that I might withdraw my selfe,  
and intend wholly to myne owne pri-  
uate affaires, and not bee blamed for  
the inconueniēces that were like to en-  
sue therof. To the which end: I made  
diuers sutes, as wel to his Majestie, as  
also to the Regent, yea even more then  
once after the putting vp of the petition  
of the Confederates, which is so great-  
ly

d It appea-  
reth by let-  
ters sent to  
the king the  
23. of Iuly.  
1561.

e It appea-  
reth by let-  
ters sent to  
the king the  
11. of March  
1562. & the  
29. of Iuly.  
1563.

f It appea-  
reth by let-  
ters sent to  
the king the  
20. of April,  
& the 27. of  
May. 1566.

g It appea-  
reth by the  
kings letters  
dated the  
29. of Sept.  
1561. & the  
6. of June.  
1563. & the  
31. of July.  
1566.

The vsurpa-  
tion of the  
Cardinal of  
Granvil.

ly defamed by our aduerfaries.

And surely if I had bene any thyng  
suspected of ambition, it is not likely  
that his Maiestie would haue refused to  
remoue me: at lest wise he would not so  
often haue expressely commaunded and in-  
stantly requested me, to be contented to  
continue in office still. For it is a playne  
case, that such as are doubted to be ambi-  
tious, ought to be remoued from all au-  
thozitie and gouernement. And therfore  
his maiesties causing of me to continue  
in the said rowmes & offices, is a plaine  
prooffe directly against the allegation of  
the foresayd Attorney general, that nei-  
ther before nor after his maiesties de-  
parting frō these low Countreys, I was  
neuer suspected of any ambitious desire  
of vsurpyng authoritie ouer him or his  
countreys. Nay rather it appeareth suf-  
ficiently thereby, that I desired nothyng  
so much, as to be discharged of al admi-  
nistration and authoritie.

And if a man consider how that after  
the kyngs departure, the managynge of  
all affaires was in the hāds of the Car-  
dinal Granvil, and how ielous the Car-  
dinal was of his own estate: (inso much  
as it was his common fashion to cause  
all such to be quyte banished & shet out  
from all authoritie and medlyng in mat-  
ters



ters of state, as seemed in any wise able to hinder the increase and continuance of his superiortie: as for example, in the tyme of the late renowned Emperour Charles, hee perswaded his Maiestie to admit no Lordes of great valour to the affaires of the Empire, nor any such as might deface or diminish his authority: after the which maner (to come to particularities) hee delt with the Lord Ferdinando Gonzaga Gouvernour of Milaine, and with Reynart a Counsaylour here: insomuch that while the Cardinal had the orderung of the assayres of Italie, the sayd Lord Ferdinando was fayne to geue ouer his gouernment there, and euen vnto his dying day, to folowe the suite of a certayne criminal action, commenced agaynst hym by the Cardinals meanes, thereby to get the Spaniardes the full superiortie of that countrey, like as they had of al other the kings dominions in Italie: And the sayd Reynart is constrained to leaue his house, wyfe, chyldren, & goodes here in the low countrey, & to get hym into Spaine, where he is like to ende his dayes as an exiled and banished man: ) he shall not find it any thing likely, that if I had gone aboute to vsurpe authority aboue the king by my gouernment, (which thing

I

I coulde not haue done without diminishing of the Cardinals authoritie) I should haue bin helde styll in the sayde offices: but rather contrarywise after the examples afoze mentioned, I should haue bin driuen to leaue them vnrquested, or at leastwise I should haue had leaue to depart from them vpo my first suit, and much rather vpon myne often renewng of my suites afterward.

But the Cardinal knowing my nature to be vtterly voyde of al ambition, and that in very deede I coucted not to haue any dealinges at al, and much lesse any great and extraordinary dealings, whereby I might haue seemed to overmatch hym in authoritie: was wel willing to seeke meanes to keepe me styll in office, therby to bleare the eyes of the people, of whom he knewe hym selfe to be sore hated, & by ours and other mens meanes to make his owne doynges to seeme better then they were, after the exāple of Dennis the Tyrāt of Sicilie, who intertayned such men of his counsaile, as the people had good opiniō of, not to the intent to vse their aduice, (as he bare them in hand) but only to make a countenance that he vsed it.

And after the departure of the sayde Cardinall, when occasion was offered  
me

me to haue betrayed myne ambition,  
if any had bin in me ; it was neuer sent  
that I tooke any thing at all vpon me  
aboue others, were it neuer so litle: but  
that I yeelded the Duches of Parma,  
the Bouernesse, the authoritie that be-  
longed vnto her, and whiche the sayde  
Cardinall had vsurped from her, ma-  
king her (as he had done the rest of the  
Counsaile) but as a cloke and shadow  
to shroude his owne doings: insomuch  
that the Duchesse dyd afterward open-  
ly declare and confesse, that shee vnder-  
stood moze of the affayres of the Coun-  
trei, within a fewe monethes after the  
Cardinals going away, than shee had  
done of all the tyme that he was about  
her.

And when as afterwarde at the firste  
troubles shee was mynded to haue for-  
saken the towne of Brusselles, and to  
haue withdrawen her selfe to Mons,  
leauyng all thyngs to their own sway,  
wherby shee should haue ministred oc-  
casion to such as had lysted, to inctroche  
vpon her authoritie: we with others  
made greate suite and supplication vnto  
her, requestyng and beseechyng her,  
that shee would not do so great wrong  
to her selfe, nor so great dishonour and  
disloyaltie to the kings maiestie, which  
dea-



dealyng of ours shewed well, that our  
 deedes and thoughtes haue bene cleane  
 contrary to ambition, whereof I am  
 wrongfully accused at this present. And  
 surely if I had had any intent to vsurpe  
 the authoritie to my selfe alone: a more  
 fit and conuenient occasion or meane  
 could not haue ben offered me, than to see  
 the Regent accomplishe her purpose.  
 But because my meanyng was cleane  
 cōtrary, I hindred it to the uttermost of  
 my power, as is sayd afore.

Also, when as it was insourmed his  
 maiestie, that it was expedient for his  
 seruice, that the Counsaile of the lowe  
 Countrey shoulde be augmented with  
 Lordes and men of learyng, further  
 authorisid in some poyntes, for preuen-  
 tyng of all confusion and disorder, that  
 they might be the better able to go thro-  
 row with a number of matters, & spe-  
 cially also to the ende that the decrees &  
 determinations of the same myght be  
 obserued & take effect with the greater  
 authoritie & regard, & al occasiō be takē  
 away frō euery man to vsurpe any au-  
 thority or iurisdicțiō, or to seke his own  
 commoditie, to the losse of the common  
 weale: I beyng required by the Duce  
 ches to name some persons meete to be  
 preferred to that place, dyd shifte my  
 handes

handes of it, because I woulde geue no occasion of mistrust, that I woulde put in any man that were at my deuotion; or with whom I had had familiarities; and I referred the whole to the kynges maiestie, without makyng of any countenance of myndyng myne owne peculiar profite.

Whereupon it may be inferred, that we be not onely wrongfully, but also without all likelyhood of truth accused of practising to vsurpe against his maiestie, through ambition and desire of gouernment and superioritie, and for the same purpose to haue troubled the peace and tranquillitie of that countrey, to the whiche we be in maner as much beholden, as to our owne native soyle: yea, and that without hauyng any regard to our owne losse & hynderance, which we should needs openly incurre by reason of the possession that we haue in the same Countrey, if it should be in any trouble, insomuch as our welfare, hynderance, or damage are inseparable from that Countrey.

For whereas the nature of ambitious folkes is to desire to raigne alone, with forcedetermination to exclude al others: I contrarywise haue not onely geuen my cōsent, that the Counsaile should be increased,

increased, & the authoritie communicated to many: but also haue offered to depart out of it, to giue roome to others, wher of the Regent & they that are of the said Counsell can be witnesses.

Therefore it is meete to seeke more apparaunt causes of the troubles some where els, and for the accomplishment thereof, to consider, that the sayd countreys were very ielous for the preservation of their liberties and franchises which they had as well by vertue of covenantes made with their Princes, as by force of priuiledge obtained by them, and specially of the Emperours of old time, for feare least they might be depriued of the by bringgng in of straungers, and namcly of the Spanyardes, bicause the fornamed Cardinall had sayd, that the kyng should neuer keepe well those Countreys, vnles he maintained a power of Spanyardes there, and caused the Pope to asloyle him of the othe that he made to them at their receiuyng of him, and conquered them new agayne, so as he might abolish all the sayd covenants and priuiledges, and rule them as he listed: whiche thyng he sayd could not be brought to passe, without y cutting of, of iiii. or fine of the chief princes heades.

By reason whercof all innovations became

The pra-  
ctises of the  
Cardinall.



became so much the more suspicious & odious, the rather bycause that in the tyme of the last warres, the extreme rigour of the Inquisition and Injunctions had bin meetly wel moderated and bidded, and libertie procured by the bynging in of the Alman souldiers (wherewith they were inforced to strengthē the selues) to make Sermons openly among them as well in Cities as in Townes, and secretly also among others in many other places, besides that the doctrine whiche is contrary to the doctrine of Rome, was receiued already in all the Countreys thereaboutes: by meanes wherof the state of Religion was so aduanced from time to tyme by the space of so many yecres together in that countrey so well peopled and haunted on all sides, that in the end men abhorred the very name of the sayde Inquisition & Injunctions, whereby an exceeding multitude of folke, that is to witte, aboue fiftie thousand persons had bin most cruelly executed and put to death, and the like number bin driven to forsake their goodes, parētes, frendes and kinnsfolke, and to liue continually in miserable exile, only (as was scene and perceiued euery day more euidently thā other) bycause they would not swarue frō Gods

Horrible  
persecutiōs.

comunaundementes, and follow mens  
inventions.

Which thing only did breede an alte-  
ratio, but also so great a hartburnyng a-  
geynst the Inquisition & Iniunctions in di-  
uers respectes, that in many places the  
officers durst not proceede any more to  
the execution of them, but by night & by  
stelth, and that not without perill and  
daunger of truble. And they themselues  
cā witnesse, whither they had not much  
ado oftentymes to saue their liues from  
the rage of the comons, moued to dis-  
pleasure at the pitifull beholdyng of so  
horrible executions.

Wherby all they that had experience  
in matters of state, foresawe that that  
only point wold be an occasiō of great  
trubles, if it were not wysely prevented  
in tyme.

\* The  
Queene of  
Hungary.

h It appee-  
reth by the  
Proclama-  
tiō set forth  
in April.  
1550.

The which incōuenience and diuers  
others the Lady \* Mary gouernesse of  
that Countrey fearyng euen in hir tyme,  
went in propre persone to Awspurg in  
the yeere. 1550, vnto Charles y late Em-  
perour of most happy memory, to as-  
wage & mitigate the rigour of the In-  
junctions & that were thē a setting forth,  
and to procure the holdyng backe of the  
Inquisition from the Citie of Andwerp  
and the Countrey of Brabant, & from o-  
ther

ther places that had not yit bin subiect to it: which thyng thee obtained at his maiesties hand. Nevertheless the fore said Cardinall with his creatures & Inquisitors, ceased not their persecutions and practizes, whereat the people dyd greatly murmur and grudge.

i It appeareth by the Inianction set forth in Septē. 1550.

Yea and they practized a great point of sutteltie: for in the begynnyng of the kings Maiesties reigne which was the yee 1555. they got out letters of commission in his name to assiste the Inquisitors. And although they were reuoked incontynently after, as soone as his Maiestie was informed of the thynges that were alledged ageinst the Inquisition: yit did it cause a great hartburning among the people when they saw their maner of dealyng. And therefore at his Maiesties departing, they had their eye vpon him that should be appointed generall gouernour of the Countrey: and that so much y more, bycause the states in general had much ado at that time to obtaine at his Maiesties had, that the Spanish souldiers wherewith the Cardinall minded to fortifie himselfe, should be withdrawen out of the Countrey.

k It appeareth by the Commissiō set foorth. 1555. and by the letters of reuocatiō graūted afterward.

which thyng the Cardinall also (the Byshop of Arras) foreseeing at length, notwithstanding that he intended in effect to haue the gouernment of the coun-

C. 9.

tre.



crey alone. Yet did so much that the title and name of Regēt or Gouverneſſe was giuen to the Duchesse of Parma, ( who at that tyme had no experience of the affaires and dispositions of the low countreys, bycause ſhee had continued alwayes in Italy, and therfore ſhould be ſayne to referre hiſſelfe to that which he ſhould perſwade her ) : and to countenance his doyngs the better, he had cauſed the kyng before his departure, to ordeine a counſell of eſtate, wherein certein of the chief knightes of the ordre were appointed deputies, and among the reſt we alſo, notwithstanding our refuſall, as is ſayd afore. For the Cardinall perceiuyng himſelfe to be counted an enemy to all liberties franchises and priuiledges that might hinder his proceedings, & to be the chief Author, Kingleader and furtherer of the Inquiſition and of the execution of the Commiſſions: knew very well that the people of thoſe Countreys would not haue ſuffered his Governement without ſettyng of themſelues ageynſt it euen at the firſt.

Now then whereas the reſt & tranquillitie of the Countrey was vphild vnder this ſhadow countenance & couert, that the affaires were managed by the authoritie of the ſayd Regēt, and by the  
advice

advice of the said Counsel of estate: this vizor was anon after plucked of & layd bare by the Cardinals owne ambition and vnadvised dealing: For within a while after the kyngs departure, he began to deale with all matters of importance alone by himselfe, or with some one or two that hung vpon his flecue, without making the Regent priue to them as he ought to haue done, & without communicatyng or propounding of them to the Counsell of estate: saying openly to the deputies of the Prouinces and Cities, that it behoued them to repayre to him and to none other, if they would come to a good end and haue ready dispatch of their matters: and yit neuertheless bearyng the Lordes of the Counsell in hand, that they should answer all alike for the inconueniences if any happened: which thing seemed very straunge and vntreasonable to some of the Counsell, who also aduertized the kyng thereof by their letters accordyng as he had left order that they should do in such cases.

And they certified his maiestie therewithall, howe that of a Bishop he was become a Cardinall, and one Viglius a Priest, one of the chiefe about hym was made President, and the report went,

L. iij.

that

It appee-  
reth by the  
Bulles of  
Paule the 4.  
& Pius the  
fourth.

Innouatiōs  
made by the  
Cardinall.

Incorpora-  
tion of Ab-  
bies.

that there should be new Bishopricks  
and incorporations of Abbies and Pre-  
lacies, / and an executyng of the deter-  
minations of the Councell of Trent,  
( thinges agreed vpon by his Maiestie  
before his departure by the counsaile of  
the two aforesayd, and of three or foure  
others that went about to satisfie their  
owne ambition and couetousnesse ther-  
by) wherethrough the people was sore  
vexed and disquieted, insomuch as there  
was no mēber nor degree of thē, which  
feelt not it selfe greatly touched with it.  
For the Lords and Noble men were of  
opinion, that this authority of the Car-  
dinall and his new bringyng in of Bi-  
shoppes, which should relye altogether  
vpon hym, tended to their depressing, to  
the puttyng of the gouernment and rule  
of the Countrey into the handes of the  
Churchmen, and to the depriuyng, not  
only of al other men, but also of the kin-  
ges maiestie, to whom the said Church-  
men could fynde in their hartes, nother  
to yeeld nor to owe any obedience at al:  
And that the Abbeyes, Prelacies, Co-  
uents, and Colledges should serue but  
to enrich the sayde Bishops with their  
spoyles, specially by incorporatyng the  
Abbeyes and Prelacies, whereby they  
shoulde bereue them of all election and  
hope



hope of attaynement to their accustomed dignities. And the people were of opinion, that that was the high way to infringe all their libertis, franchises, & priuiledges & to bring in the Inquisition, & to renue the rigour of the Inuitions, & finally to bring them in bondage to the clergy. which thyngs were y<sup>e</sup> very causes and wellsprings of all the distrusts, troubles, & mischieses that insued afterward, (in as much as some would haue put the things in execution, which those good Counsaylers had perswaded his maiestie to doo, who ought of right to be blamed and rebuked for their so doo- yng) wherof they go about to cleare the Cardinall, and to charge vs therewith, without any colour or likelyhood at al.

And although it appeare in histories that alterations, troubles, and rebellions haue happened vpon lesse occasions: yet notwithstanding, that Countrey was so intirely affectioned to wardes their soueraigne Lord & prince, as those causes had not yet taken their ordinary and accustomed effectes, because it was hoped, that the Statcs of the Countrey beyng commended to his Maiestie by their ductifulnesse and seruice done in the former warres, myght turne his mynd, so as he would rather  
L. iij. apply

apply his determinations to the tyme,  
 and stop all new deuices, yea, and the  
 proceedynges of the Bishops, and the  
 Inquisition, and the rigorous Iniunctions  
 at the request of so loyall and faythfull a  
 people, accordyng to their treaties and  
 priuiledges: than to further so vnmea-  
 surable alterations, at the pleasure of a  
 straunger, and of certayne vnknown  
 persons, agaynst the oportunitie of the  
 time, the priuiledges of the Countreys,  
 his owne promises, and in effect euen  
 nature it selfe: specially consideryng that  
 the troubles in France were styred vp  
 at the same tyme, by occasion of Edi-  
 naunces and Edictes tendyng to like  
 effect, howbeit, that the Realme of  
 Fraunce is not so frequented, and on al  
 partes so inclosed and inuironed with  
 Countreys that folowe the Religion,  
 contrary to the Romishe Religion, as  
 the sayd low Countreys are.

And their hope was, that he would  
 doo it so muche the rather, because the  
 sayd innouations began also to be mis-  
 liked of strangers, namely of the Arch-  
 bishops and Bishops of the Empire,  
 whose iurisdiction within their own di-  
 oces, was impeached by the foresayd e-  
 rection of the newe Bishoprikes: and  
 that his Maiestie would reape none o-  
 ther

ther profit by them, than to bestowe his authority vpon such as made open profession, that they would neuer thinke them selues beholden to hym for it.

In respect of which reasons and o-  
ther like, which euery man dyd set be-  
fore hym, accordyng to the capacitie of  
his wytt, and specially vpon hope, which  
the said Countreys, as well generally  
as particularly conceived of his maie-  
sties goodnesse, for as muche as he no  
lesse than his predecessors, had alwayes  
dealt reasonably with them by Justice,  
and accordyng to the customes of their  
countreys, and that wherin soeuer they  
found them selues greeued, they had bin  
woont to open it vnto his maiestie, by  
waye of request and complaynt: their  
desire was to take the same way nowe  
also, and thereby to aduertise his maie-  
stie of the sayd innouations and incon-  
ueniences that wer like to ensue, if they  
were not remedied out of hand: in con-  
sideration wherof, as well on the behalf  
of the Regent, as of the Lordes assem-  
bled in counsell, (whom the Cardinall  
bare in hand (as is said afore) that they  
should be burchened with all incōueni-  
ences that might insue, as wel as he) the  
Baron of Mountignie, a knyght of the  
Order was in sente to his Maiesrie in

in In Au-  
gust, 1562.



post, with all speede that might be, with charge & instructiōs to shew the state & necessitie of the Countreys, & their generall mislikyng of the sayd innouations, which made the Noble men and states of the Countrey to surcease all further and particular pursuite of the matter, in hope that his Maiestie would vpon such declaration, take order for some amends, or at leastwise for some mitigation of those poyntes, wherewith they found them selues distressed and greeued: the rather, in as muche as for the staying of the incorporation of the Prelacies and Abbeyes then vacant in Brabant, the Prelates & other Noble men of the Countrey, (like as they of Andwerp also had done) had sent their deputies afoze to stop the Inquisition, and the bringyng in of the newe Bishop: whiche thing helde the Countrey for a tyme in suspence without any commotion or trouble, vpon hope that by those deputies of theirs, they should obteyne some such good redresse and cōposition, as the state of the case required.

⁊ In February. 1562.  
 ○ In May.  
 1562.

Assemblies  
 at Sermons  
 & to heere  
 preachyngs.

But yet notwithstanding the state of Religion went forward styll on all sydes, in so muche that in some places, men began to preach, not only secretly, (which thyng could neuer yet be letted  
 by

by any rigour) but also openly: namely at Valenciennes, Tournay, and diuers other places, the occasions wherof were geuen, or at leastwise increased, by the libertie of the Religion agreed vpon in Fraunce, for to their seemyng, they had deserued no lesse at the handes of their kyng and prince, than the Frenchmen had at theirs, and in as muche as they had in many respectes bin dealt withall after the same maner that the Frenchmen had bin, they thought also y they deserued to obtaine liberty of conscience, as well as they. And it was euident to be seene, that (in as much as those low countreys were inuironed with others that followed euerychone the contrary religion, and that their mayntenaunce stood vpon the intercourse of marchaundise, and vpon the recourse and traffique of their neighbours thither:) it was impossible for them to obserue the auncient ordinances and lawes of Religion any more, by whiche lawes although men had gone about to roote vp all Religion quite and cleane, yet notwithstanding it was found by experience, that it grew and increased enen in the greatest rigor of all, and therfore that it is vtterly impossible to inforce or constryne Religion or conscience, at leastwise any further.

therforth than to a kynde of dissimulation.

Notwithstanding all this, the Cardinall continued his bringyng in of the sayd Bishops, & his inuestyng of them, incrochyng to hym selfe the Archbishopricke of Mechline (by vertue wherof he intended to syt as Metropolitane and Primate of those Countreys, and to deuoure the Abbey of afflighem, which is the richest in all Brabant, nexte to the Abbey of Saint Amand, which he had seised into his possession already) and partyng the residue among so vnfit and vnnuete persons, that men mocked at them openly. And although those inuestitures were made in some Cities without any open withstandyng, yet was it easie to be perceyued, that many folke misliked of it, and some also did set theselues euen openly against it, namely they of Andwerpe, of Brooning, of Leedward, of Deuenter, and of Ruermond.

And it was easie to see wherto these doyngs tended, in as much as the Cardinall (who ouerruled all the Counsaylers, yea and the Regent her selfe, and had so absolute power and authoritie) was become the head of all those Bishops, who by reason of their vnfitnes  
and



and lacke of experience, should hang all  
 vpon hym, by meanes wherof he tooke  
 more vpo him thā euer any prince of the  
 Countrey had done. And to mainteine,  
 stablish, increase, and augmente his  
 authoritie by forcible meanes, he had  
 set forward the Inquisition and the  
 Iniunctions aforesayde. And to plea-  
 sure me withal, he had at his comman-  
 dement, the geuyng, distributyng, & be-  
 stowing of all the kyngs offices, Bene-  
 fices, and Fees, and likewise of the Re-  
 gentes, also ouer and besides the helpes  
 that he had of his owne and of his sayd  
 Bishops. So that in conclusion he had  
 opened himselfe the right way to get &  
 mainteine superiortie ouer the kyng &  
 his Countreys. And moreouer, to be ad-  
 uertized trewly of thynges that were  
 done euery where, and to hold in with  
 the kyngs and Princes that were next  
 neighbours: hee had as it were in his  
 hand & at his becke, all the kynges Am-  
 bassadours, Agentes, and deputies, and  
 among others, his owne brother also,  
 who did set the affaires of Fraunce in  
 such a boyle, that for the benefite and  
 quietnes of the same realme, the queene  
 there did make very earnest request to  
 the kyngs Maiestie to take him thence.

Therefore whosoever looketh well to  
 theis

these things, shall easily be able to iudge who it was that tooke vpon him authoritie about the kynges Maiestie: namely whether it was we whiche vsed not any of the foresaid meanes, (but vnterly disliked all innouations: and had once afore refused to be of the Counsell and giuen ouer the office of chief treasurer, desirynge nothyng so much as to haue bin spared afterward ageyne from Counsell. in matters of estate and from office of governemēt, and specially from that Counsell): or the Cardinall whiche bare all the sway, & by his innouations & extraordinary dealynges, shewed himselfe to haue the said authoritie, with intent to stablische and mainteine himselfe in the same by their meanes, yea and in farre greater thā euer any Prince of the Countrey had.

Surely I am of opiniō, that such as consider well the thyngs aforesayd and iudge of them without affection, shall finde as litle reason why we should go about to accuse vs in this behalfe, as why they should excuse the sayde Cardinall.

But whē as the deputies of the Prelates had by meanes of rewardes and pensions obtained, that the Incorporation of the Abbeyes should not go forward

ward: and when as the men of Andwerp had obtained that no man should molest them with the Inquisition, & that they should bee winked at concerning the byngyng in of the new Byshop: for asinuch as the sayd Lord of Moutignie was returned without sufficiēt resolution for the remedying of other inconveniences, so as there was small hope that matters should bee redressed, in as much as by meanes of the sayd Pensiōs the doynges of the Bishops (whose only labour was to byng in the Inquisition) was furthered, and it was practized to disappoint the mē of Andwerp of the benefite of winkyng at them, & to bring them in subiectiō to the Cardinal, & vnder the Archbyshoppe of Mechlyne: y Regent thought it good by the aduice of hir Couzell, to informe the king once ageine of the state of the Countrey, and specially of Malécien & Turnay, where it seemed vtterly impossible to keepe y people from the exercize of the Religio, without a continuall garrison. wherupon hir hyghnesse sent a Counseller of hirs named p Armenteros to his Maiestie, so that in conclusion it was fully resolved by him, that the Cardinall the apparant authour of all the alterations and discontentementes, should get him out

p The yeere  
1564.



out of the Countrey : whiche thyng did  
giue the people some contentation and  
hope of amendement of their state.

But forasmuch as the Cardinals crea-  
tures continued still their innouati-  
ons, & managed all affaires in his ab-  
sence after the same maner that he him-  
selfe had obserued : the former disorders  
returned by and by ageyne. And it was  
impossible to remedy them, bycause of  
the disagreement that was betweene the  
three cheef Counsels, that is to wit, the  
Counsell of the States, the pinate Coun-  
sell, and the Counsell of the Archequer,  
which were all three ouerruled in effect  
by the Cardinall and his creatures, but  
yet in such wise as they coulde neuer  
come to agreement among themselues.  
Wherein a man may note the notable  
leawdnesse and wylinesse of the Cardi-  
nall, who to keepe the rest of the sayd  
Counsell of the estates from doying such  
seruis to the kyng as they woulde haue  
doone, had utterly excluded them from  
all entrance & intermedying with che-  
kerinatters and matters of Law, and  
from all such orders as were taken in  
gouernement or otherwise, knowing  
well that without the intelligēce of the,  
it was impossible for them to consult &  
determine well of most matters of im-  
por-

portance all whiche drift tended to the  
 reteyning and stablischyng of his owne  
 authoritie. And yit for all that, he labo-  
 reth to accuze vs & others of high trea-  
 zon, bycause that for the better seruice of  
 the king, we desired to haue the secretes  
 of the sayd Courtes communicated to  
 the Counsell of the estates, as a need-  
 full thyng for the discharge of our dew-  
 tyres, whereas in the meane season, hee  
 himselfe, & after him the President Vi-  
 glius ouerruled all the sayd three Cou-  
 selles, as though that of right all autho-  
 ritie had belonged to him and his,  
 and that on the contrarye part it had  
 bin a heynous crime and offence for o-  
 ther men to requyre any part of the same  
 authoritie to be conueyed ouer, not vn-  
 to vs which do offer to depart from the  
 same Counsell, but to y<sup>e</sup> whole cheef cou-  
 sell togither. Such is y<sup>e</sup> sinceritie wher-  
 by they proceede at this presēt in y<sup>e</sup> low  
 countrey, for the preseruation of the kings  
 authoritie as they beare men in hand.

For almuch therefore as the affaires  
 of the Countrey were so discouered, as  
 it was not possible for the Lordes of the  
 cheef Counsell (whom they went about  
 to burthen with all the incōueniences,  
 that might happen) to preuent & redresse  
 the same incōueniences & thereby to set

¶ It appeareth by the  
foresayd  
Bulles of  
the Popes  
and the De-  
cree of the  
seuen Car-  
dinals.  
The Coun-  
ty of Eg-  
mōds iour-  
ney into  
Spayne.  
r In the be-  
gynnyng of  
the yere.  
1565.

foreward the seruice of his Maiestie, for  
want of authoritie & cōference with the  
other counsels: & forasmuch as the peo-  
ple saw that the new Bishops, by rea-  
son of their vnfitnesse & their disordered  
life & behauiour, (whiche was so great  
that y<sup>e</sup> Regent was fayne to call the be-  
fore him and to rebuke them,) could not  
serue to do any good to the Countrey, &  
that y<sup>e</sup> pride, the threarnings, & the other  
manner of dealynges vsed by them and  
their followers, bewrayed that it was  
decreed at Rome that euery Bishop  
should haue ix. prebēdes affectioned to  
helpe foreward the Inquisition, whereof  
two should be Inquisitors themselves,  
by reason whereof they should serue to  
none other purpoze, but to set foreward  
& stablish the Inquisition: To y<sup>e</sup> end they  
might by his Maiesties good meanes  
incounter the mischeues that were like  
to spyng of the thynges aforesayd the  
Counsell thought it good to send vn-  
to his Maiestie the Prince of Bawre  
Erle of Egmond; who at his returne  
gaue great hope and likelyhode of some  
amēdicment and redresse of matters, as  
in respect of mitigatyng the Iniunctions  
and of abolishyng the Inquisition, vpon  
the perfozmaunce or not perfozmaunce  
whereof it was to be scene openly both



in deede and by experience, (as well by the exāple of Fraunce (as hath bin sayd afore) as otherwise,) that the cōmotion or appeasement of the people depēded, and therefore that all that euer insewed afterward was to be imputed vnto the, and not to any ambitio of ours as they pretended. For to the purpose aboue mētioned there mette together iij. Bishops, three Diuines, three professors of the Ciuill law, & three other of the Canon law: whose aduice beyng taken cōcernyng the foresayd mitigation, was sent to the kynges Maestie: but by the instigation of the Cardinall and others that were continewally ticklyng him in the eare, he had no regard of it (notwithstāding that it was still ouerrigorous,) nor yet to the former informations, but commaunded expressely in the end of the 1565. yeare, that without any further replying, they shoulde proceede to the byngyng in of the new Bishops who were not as yet installed, and to the publication of the Decrees of the Counsell of Trent, and to giue the Inquisitors the authoritie that belonged to them by the Ciuill and Canon law, and moreouer to execute the Iniunctions in very deede with all rigor immediatly vpon the receipt of his letter.

s In the Sommer. 1565.

The kynges resolution.  
It appeareth by the extractes of the kynges letters sent abroad by the Regētes letters dated the 18. Decēb. 1565 both the whiche are inserted in the ende,

D. ij.

Decēb.

Heretofore were diuers Copies and extractes sent abroad by and by to all Cities, and they were inioyned and charged to conformance themselves to his maiesties resolution and commaundement, which was the second and cheef cause of all the alterations, mischeues and inconueniences that followed afterward, the very fountaine wherof was not any ambition of ours, but the ambition of the Cardinall & the distrust that he had caused among the people by his foresayd innovations, as appeereth evidently by that which hath bin sayd, and is confirmed by the & complaintes made afterward by the Cities of Brabant and the members of Flanders and other places, matched with the confederacie that was made anon after betwene certein Lordes and Gentlemen, against the Inquisition and the rigour of the foresayd Imunctions.

v It appeareth by the reports and requests exhibited in Court.

Wordes taken out of the Summons.

Wherefore it hath no likelyhode of truth that the Attourney Generall alledgeth, namely that we should haue bin the cause of the sayd confederacie, by perswadyng certeine persons that the kyng ment to bring in the Spanishe Inquisition, as though the maner and forme of the Inquisition, rather than the effect & executio of it should cause men to make insur-

insurrection. which is a thyng so much  
the more ageynst reason; for as much as  
it is not the qualitie of death that put-  
teth me in feare & causeth them to make  
mutinies, insurrections, and uprores,  
but the very terrour of death to self: spe-  
cially in this present race, where by the  
addying of this word Spanish, nother the  
qualitie nor the kinde of punishment is  
changed, but only the generall name of  
Inquisition is restrayned to the particu-  
lar name of Spanish: which is no suffici-  
ent cause to make men to rise and to re-  
bell. Nowbeit, that to speake more per-  
emptorily, I say playnly, it lay neither  
in me nor in any others, to make men  
beleue that his Maiestie intended to  
bring in the Spanishe Inquisition, for as  
much as there had neuer bin any men-  
tion made of that Inquisition before:  
and that afterward the some of the In-  
quisition that was to be set forth, was  
shewed expressly by the kyngs letters,  
in maner hereafter writen, whereby they  
be readily conuined, whiche surmised  
that the people were agitated up and mo-  
ued to commotion by means of this  
word Spanish.

For as much then as the Inquisition  
specified and declared by his maiesties  
last letters, was the cause of the peo-  
ples

D. iiij.

The Inqui-  
sition was  
the foun-  
tayne of al the al-  
terations in  
the lowe  
Countrie.



ples displeasure, and that there was no further hope of remedy to be looked for: it foloweth, that al the thyngs that insued afterward, are to be wyted vppon it, & not vpon any other thyng, and consequently that it is not true, that I by my like inductiōs & perswasions, had caused many of his maiesties subiectes to ryle and to rebel agaynst hym, or that I had so seduced, corrupted, and prouoked a great part of the Nobilitie aforehande, that they made leagues, conspiracies, & coniurations, and had sworne to defend and fortifie them selues thereby agaynst his Maiestie and his ordinaunces that had bin kept and obserued at all tymes afore, and that to the same end there had bin certayne meetings kept in my houses, as well at Breda, as at Brusselles, by meanes wherof I should haue bin the chiefe head, author, furtherer, fauourer, and harbrowgher of Rebels, Conspirers, Coniurators, priuie practisers, and troublers of the cominō weale and quietnesse.

For there appeareth not any rebellion or commotion made against his maiestie, whereof we should be bounde to answer. And as for the said confederacy, it came not by our occasion, but by reason of the distresses that were caused by the

the sayd Inquisition and Iniunctions, and by infrindgyng the promises made the yeares. 1550. 1555. 1562. 1565. and at other tymes, as hath bin shewed heretofore: and therfore the troubling of the common weale, and the disturbing of the peace of the Countrey, are to be imputed to them selues and to the Cardinals ambitio, & not to so sonde perswasions & impressio, as the terme of Spanish Inquisition, & such like. For no lesse fond is that allegatio, than were y<sup>e</sup> wordes of hym, \* who thought to stave all innouations, by saying that the kyng meant not to stablish an Inquisition, but onely a visitation: as who should say, men respected more the word than the deede, and were more hasty to make insurrection for the termes of Inquisition and Spanish, than for the rigor and crueltie that they had scene and wer afraid of by the execution of the Iniunctions.

\* Viglius.

And therfore I say, that the sayd confederacie and complaints, and al the rest of the thyngs that ensued, dyd but onely shewe the effecte of that whiche we had told the Lady Regent aforehand, in open counsel, that we feared would come to passe: that is to wyt, that his maiesties sayd resolution would cause some great alteration, specially by reason of

x It appea-  
reth by two  
letters sent  
in the be-  
ginnyng of  
the yeare  
1566.

the hope that a number had conceived  
vpon the returne and report of the sayd  
Lord the Countie of Egmond. And  
wheras I wrote the same thyng in ef-  
fect to her highnes afterward: she con-  
fessed to vs by her answer, that she per-  
ceyued clearly howe the sayd resolution  
was the cause of all the troubles: and  
therfore (as is sayd) the sayd confedera-  
cie being made without my knowledge  
oz aduice, ought not to be imputed ther-  
unto. For when I was aduertised of  
it within a while after, (as it were a fif-  
teene dayes oz therabouts) before the  
confederats were marines, I protested  
openly and flatly, that I liked nor of it,  
ne thought it to be the right meance to  
maynteyne the quietnesse and tranqui-  
litye of the common weale.

7 It appea-  
reth by the  
expresse  
wordes of  
the confe-  
deracie sig-  
ned with  
their hands.

It is very true that I esteemed it noe  
as a rebellion, conspiracie, oz coniurati-  
on, because the confederates stood sted-  
fastly vpon this point, that they meant  
not to doo oz attempt any thing against  
the welfare of his Maiestie and of his  
Countrey, wherem they were of the  
same opinion that we be, confirmed by  
common experience, whiche was, that  
the Inquisition and rigour of the Inqui-  
sitions could neuer come to good, in so  
muche that by the examples whiche we  
had



had seeke afore in Almain, France, England, and Scotland, we were bound to confesse that the kynges resolution in that behalfe, could not but bryng great waste, desolation, & destruction to thosie Countreys, without any furtheraunce of his proceedings: wheras on the contrary part it was to be scene, that the Countreys which haue the libertie of Religion, or at leastwise of conscience, and where the Inquisition and the rigor of the Iniunctions is not put in executiō, continue in rest and quiet: which is an euident prooffe, that to lyue without the Inquisition in libertie of conscience, is an other manner of thing, thā to liue loosely, lawlesly, and without order, as some haue falsly and sclanderously repoꝛred: for otherwise the princes of Germanie, which set as much store by the rest and quietnesse of their Countreys, as the kynges maiestie doth, would in no wise abyde it, specially if they mistrusted that any disobedience would insue of it.

And was so much the more confirmed in this opinion, because the confederates shewed not them selues stubborn; ne meant to obteyne their request by force, but onely sued that <sup>z</sup> his maiestie (who (sayd they) was abused by certayne persons, which vnder the colour

<sup>z</sup> It appeareth by the request of the confederates and the answer thereto, which are both inserted hereafter.

colour and pretence of Religion, went  
 about to satisfie their owne ambition &  
 couetousnesse) would vouchsafe to take  
 intelligence of their complaint and suit,  
 and thereupon folow the aduice of his  
 counsell, offryng them selues to be ru-  
 led and lead accordingly as the same be-  
 ing duely informed, should decree con-  
 cernyng the matter of Religion. So  
 that when they were once by in this  
 rebellion, conspiracie, or coniuration, he  
 ought to haue inclined to their petition,  
 and to haue regard of their supplicati-  
 ons, either in that they required to haue  
 their Noble mē heard, or for that all cō-  
 federacies generally without exceptiō,  
 do stande in their own conceyt, wherein  
 I confesse I liked none of both his ma-  
 iesties doings. For in my iudgement, a  
 Prince may be abused: and therfore it is  
 good reason that the subiect, vassall, or  
 what soeuer he is that is indamaged,  
 shoulde haue leaue to vtter his griefe.  
 And Emperours and kinges haue bin  
 commended in that they haue suffe-  
 red them selues to be rebuked by pri-  
 uate persons, for not seemyng to geue  
 eare to their requestes and complaints,  
 as he was which suffered one to say to  
 hym in open streete, If thou lyst not to  
 heare our suites, lyst not to be our Em-  
 perour:

perour: and as an other was, who being a kyng and soueraigne Lord, dyd notwithstanding suffer an old woman to appeale from hym, because (as shee sayd) he gaue no care to her matter.

And seeyng that in these low Countreys, in cases of importances, whereupon both honour and goodes depend, whether it be publikely or priuately, men haue bin wont to referre them selues to the states, who haue bin of that auctoritie, that in all tymes, yea & euen in the tyme of Charles late the Emperour of happy memorie, they haue oftentimes asssembled by reason of occurrents of lyke or lesse importance, yea, and euen in the case of Religion, and an Edict by their aduice, in the yeare. 1531. whiche was then published, as appereth by the style and processe therof: let vs not thinke it vnlawfull for vs to require the same thyng nowe which we see to haue bin done and vsed in like cases heretofore. And many good confederacies and holy leagues are founde to haue bin made heretofore, (as for example, the confederacies of the Machabees & other doings) and that men may make them styll to the honour of God and to the prosperitie of their kynges and countreys: So that in my iudgement, there  
can



can no rebellion be inferred vppon the  
poyntes aforesayd.

For as touching that the confederats did  
promise and sweare to mainteine, helpe  
and defend one an other agaynst the In-  
quisition and Iniunctions : seeing that  
that promise might haue bin made to  
cease by the meanes aforesayd, and they  
offered in effect by their petition to goe  
from it, because it seemed to be agaynst  
the kyngs commoditie, & to obey what  
soeuer should be ordeyned by the aduice  
of the States : it seemeth against rea-  
son, that whereas hunters and others  
that deale with the tainyng of vnraso-  
nable beastes, do indenuour to put away  
their fiercenesse, moodinesse, and wyld-  
nesse, by diligence, company, and cheri-  
shing, rather than by cudgelling, whip-  
pyng, and roughnesse, the kyng should  
by the froward instigations of the Car-  
dinall and his hangers on, vse rigour  
and roughnesse towards so loyall sub-  
iectes and faythfull vassals, rather than  
meeknesse and clemencie, to keepe them  
at his accustomed deuotion by surceas-  
sing (at leastwise for a tyme) the executiō  
of the sayd Inquisition & Iniunctiō, which  
(to all mens seemyngs) could not be set  
forward, nor continued in that tyme,  
without apparant damage, hurt, & pre-  
iudice

iudice to his Maiestie and Countreys, specially seying that the former warres had already as good as suspended and asswaged the rigour of them as is sayd afore, whereby it was come to some discontinuacion, and the variances and alterations which had risen by since that tyme euery where, seemed not to suffer that it shoulde by any meanes bee renewed and set by agayne.

And it should seeme that the Regent also was of the same minde: who before the coming of the confederates, sayd that she had considered aforehand of the mitigation of the Injunctions. And she had already on the kings behalfe declared the Countrey, of Brabant to be exempted from the Inquisition, in somuch that nother at the first nor at the last (at leastwise vntill the tyme of my departure) she made not any countenaunce of accountyng the sayd confederacie or the supplication presented by the same, for any rebellion. which thyng I thought good to shewe, not of purpose to enter into any forme of Protestation in respect of the confederacie, which toucheth not me (as appeareth by that which is said:) but only to shew that there was no reason why I alone should take the confederates for rebels, & so exclude them from their

a It appeareth by the purposed conceit of a new Edict.

b It appeareth by the agreement made the 24 of March. 1566. by the common Register of 1565. called the Register of Brabant.

their accustomed resorting to my houses, in the which I am sure, that to my knowledge, there hath not any assembly bin made, agaynst the welfare honour, and prosperitie of the Kynges Maiestie.

And agayne saying that the Lady Regent tendered the confederates so farre by the kinges commaundement and by the aduice of all his Counsell, as to promise the by letters signed with hir own hand and sealed with hir scale, that they should not be blamed for the same confederacie or for any thyng that insewed thereupon: there was no reason that I should deale otherwise with them, or make any other account of them, than she had done. And if any man will say she did it to an other end, only to bring them a sleepe & to serue hir owne turne by them agaynst those that had ouershot theselues to farre in the breakyng downe of images: it maketh nothing at all agaynst our intention.

For although it may be inferred thereupon, that our meening extended not so farre forth: yet notwithstanding we agree fully with the opiniõ of the kyng and of the Regent, in the point of keepyng company with them, and in suffering them to haunt and frequent our howses. And ther-

e It appeareth by hir letters of assurance dated the 25. of August. 1566. hereafter inserted.



therfore in so doyng we haue not letted  
 or hindered, but rather furthered his  
 Maiesties good proceedynges and ser-  
 uis: or else at least wise we haue bin de-  
 ceiued by the foresayd declaration of his  
 Maiestie and of the Lady Regēt, which  
 is a sufficient excuse for vs agaynste all  
 pretended fauorýng & furtherýng of the  
 cōfederates, for asmuch as they nother  
 be nor were rebels, or at leastwise were  
 not so counted and taken to bee by the  
 kynges Maiestie & the Lady Regent,  
 and by all others in generall. For it is  
 to bee noted that a generall errour or  
 mistakýng, especially where it is caused  
 by the kyng or prince himselfe hath the  
 force of Law and right.

To the cōfirmation wherof his ma-  
 iestie wrote vnto vs with his owne hād  
 in the moneth of August, & so that after  
 that the sayd confederacie and the put-  
 ting vp of their sute came to his know-  
 ledge, he was very wel contented with  
 our scruis, & misliked not of any thyng  
 that had passed willyng vs not to think  
 the contrary, but that hee did repose his  
 whole trust in vs, and beleued not the  
 things wherewith some malicious per-  
 sons charged vs, in saying that we dyd  
 our dewty very ill, and many such o-  
 ther wordes.

And

d It appee-  
 reth by the  
 kynges let-  
 ters of the  
 first of Au-  
 gust. 1566.  
 the transla-  
 tion wherof  
 is inserted  
 hereafter,

e It appea-  
reth by let-  
ters sent to  
the kyng,  
the.14. of  
Iunc. 1566.

The words  
of the Sum-  
mons or  
Citation.

And surely considering the case as it ought to be, his Maiestie had no cause (in respect of any thyng that is sayd) to iudge otherwile thereof, for asinuch as before the sayd confederacie, I had sufficiently declared that my opinion was, that the Inquisition and the rigour of the Iniuuctions could not bee put in execution, without trouble and inconueniēce, & therupon made sure to be discharged of mine offices & gouernement, whereby his Maiestie was sufficiently certified, that I tooke not any like confederacie to be a rebellion, and my keepyng stil of myne offices and gouernement confirmed sufficiently (at leastwile by secrecy) that I continued in the same opinion and in the thyngs that depend therupō.

And therefore ther is no likelihode why they should go about to newchyzisten vs by the names of head author, fauourer, furtherer, and harbower of rebels such it appeereth not that we haue receined, fauored, provided for, or authorized any men as rebels. Noether can it be founde that we haue taken any of the confederats, or any other such like into our peculiar protection and safekeepyng: & yet notwithstanding they go about to accuse me thereof also, whereby men may perceine what iust dealing is vsed now a dayes

dayes in the low countreys, seying that  
 for causes so apparauntly without all  
 ground or likelihode of truth, they haue  
 not only seized vpon my goodes & pos-  
 sessions, but also partly confiscated them  
 and put them to sale, extendyng execu-  
 tion vpon the agaynst all order of right.  
 wherby they shew evidently that they  
 be fully mynded to practise all maner of  
 violence, & in effect to minister extreme  
 wrong in stede of full right, vnder the  
 cloke and couert of Justice, without re-  
 garde of any maner of Justification or  
 defence.

To the whiche effect they accuse vs  
 also for that some of the confederates had  
 entered into armes, in diuers places:  
 not consideryng that we be not bounde  
 to answere for other mens doyngs, nor  
 ought to be charged though some of the  
 confederates perchaunce became rebels  
 afterwarde, for asmuch as they were  
 none such nor so taken to be at the tyme  
 that they haunted and frequented our  
 houses, and that whatsoeuer was done  
 in that behalfe, was done not only with-  
 out our aduice, but also to our vnutte-  
 rable greef, and sarre of from vs, for at  
 that time I was in Holland, wher and  
 not in any other place, I must needes  
 haue leuyed men of warre, if I had but  
 E. i. mynded



manded to vsurpe authoritie against his  
Majestie, bycause the townes and for-  
tresses there were at my commaundemēt.

But myne intent hath bin nothyng  
els, but to pacifie the sayd countreys and  
the Prouinces of Zeland and Utreight  
beyng all vnder my gouernement, and  
to keepe them in obedience to the kings  
Majesty, accordyng to my Commission  
and the Lady Regentes expresse com-  
maundement geuen vnto me. So that,  
I haue induered to the vttermost of  
my power, to acquite my selfe well and  
faythfully of that charge, as the Presi-  
dentes, Counsellors, States, Officers,  
& Magistrates of the Cities of the same  
Countreys can wel witnesse; and they  
are able to say whither I did euer mini-  
ster any speech vnto thē, otherwise than  
to incorage thē in their obedience loyal-  
tie, and seruice towards his Majestie,  
lyke as I haue done in all other places  
where I had any office or authoritie.

whiche thyng appeereth openly by  
this, that notwithstanding all theis  
broyles, I haue by Gods grace vsed  
such forecast, as no place, towne, or for-  
tresse of our gouernement hath bin de-  
stroyed, sacked, or turned away frō their  
dew obedience to the kynges Majestie  
or the Regent.

Out

Out of the same forge commeth this  
 forgerie also, which is put into the Li-  
 tation of the County of Hoochestraten,  
 wroghfully flandered to haue bin a fur-  
 therer of our ambitious practises: name-  
 ly that we should haue hild many suspi-  
 cious communications and priny pac-  
 kynges at Hoochestraten, and that at  
 Deuremond we should haue determi-  
 ned with the foresayd Countie of Eg-  
 mond, and with the County of Horne,  
 and with the sayde County of Hooche-  
 straten, to enter into armes agaynst his  
 Maiestie, and to keepe him from com-  
 myng into the lowe countrey, by force.  
 For I reporte me to the Lordes that  
 were at Hoochestraten when I was  
 there, whether there were any other  
 talke than of makynge good cheere, and  
 of visityng one an other, and of feasting  
 certeine straunge Lordes as frendes & a-  
 lyes meetyng together: so as it cā neuer  
 bee auowed that any thyng was con-  
 cluded there, that was woorthy to bee  
 suspected, or any disloyalitic practised a-  
 gaynst his Maiestie.

Also it shall neuer be found true, y we  
 practised either at Deuremond, or any  
 where els, to stop his maiesties comyng  
 by force, or otherwise. For although we  
 were aduertised that all our dooynges

E.ij.

were

f It appea-  
reth by his  
two letters  
sent in the  
moneth of  
August.  
1566.

The inter-  
view at  
Deuremód.

were misconstrued to his Maiestie, to  
turne away the good wyll that he bare  
towards vs: in so much that there came  
to our handes the copies of certaine let-  
ters written by the Lord Fraunces of  
Alua, his Maiesties Ambassadour in  
France, to the Lady Regent, & the con-  
tents wherof were, that the thre with-  
in noted; (whiche were the Countie  
of Eginond, the Countie of Horne, and  
wee) should be punished in tyme and  
place accordyng to their desertes, untill  
the whiche tyme he woulde that men  
should make good countenance towards  
vs: and that in effect these letters bla-  
med vs for all the ruyles that had hap-  
pened in the sayd low Countreys, auo-  
wyng the same thyng to haue bin the  
principal cause of the foresaid meting at  
Deuremond: yet notwithstanding we  
trusting altogether to our own innocē-  
cie, did not forbear to communicate the  
contentes of the sayd letters to the La-  
dy Regent, & to aske her directly what  
was meant by them. There were cer-  
tayne other poyntes treated of, whiche  
concerned them that were there, & their  
doynages, wherof I take it that the sayd  
two Lordes being then prisoners, haue  
made sufficient declaration. In respect  
wherof, and because they perceyue not  
to



to the present matter, and for that it is  
to be presumed, that in this case men  
should holde them selues satisfied (at  
leastwise on our behalfe) for al that is  
in the writte wherby we be summoned,  
there is no mention made of the fore-  
sayd two assēblyes: I wil make no fur-  
ther discourse therof.

Only this I adde, that he which has  
foreseene the outrages and violence us-  
ed at this tyme in the low countreys, &  
had done his duetie and endeavor to stop  
them, accordyng to couenants with the  
Duchie of Brabant, and accordyng to  
his owne oth and bond: should perad-  
venture not be thought worthy of blame  
for any other rebellion: consideryng  
that if he had mynded any such thing, he  
could haue found no meanes to doo it,  
than our aduersaries weene, were it not  
that the opinion which we haue concei-  
ued of the kyngs goodnesse, (who not-  
withstandyng doth waste, destroy, and  
spoyle the Countrey so well affectioned  
to his maiesties seruice, at the onely  
pleasure of the Cardinall of Bransuill)  
had not turned me away from all suche  
thoughtes.

And therfore to come to other points  
of our Summons, and nainely to that  
which importeth that we should haue

E. ii.

ayded

The words  
of the Sum-  
mons.

The forti-  
fying of the  
Towne of  
Vianen.

ayded and counsellled the Lorde of Bre-  
derode, (chiefe of the rebels, as is there  
pretended) to fortifie his citie of Viane;  
against the kyngs maiestie: I confesse,  
that commyng to Viane certayne yeres  
before these alterations, and beyng told  
by the sayd Lord of Brederode, that his  
late Lord and Father had inioyned and  
commaunded hym by his last wyll and  
testament, to goe forward with the for-  
tifying of the sayde Towne, and of his  
house, lately begonne, desirynge me to  
geue him myne aduice for the fortifying  
therof: I confesse (say I) that I dyd so:  
wherupon it may wel be inferred, that  
I gaue the saide Lorde counsell to per-  
forme the last will of his sayd Lord and  
father deceased: but not that I ayded or  
counsellled any captayne of Rebelles to  
fortifie the citie agaynst the kynges ma-  
iestie. By reason whereof, and for as  
much as it is no treason for a man to  
geue his aduice vpon the fortifying of a  
place: it appeareth playnly, that those  
accusations tende but only to the defa-  
cing of the truth, and to the oppressing  
of innocencie.

And that so much the more, because  
that in the low Countreys it hath at all  
times bin lawfull for Gentleme of abi-  
litie & liuyng, to furnish & fortifye their  
pla-

places wherof it hath bin sene, that many both of old tyme and euer since, haue bin fortified by vertue of the same liberty, not only vpon the frontiers, but also euē in the myddes & in the very hart of the Countrey, which fortifying was so much the more lawfull for the said Lord Brederoode to make, because he held and possessed the said towne of Miane with all right of soueraigntie. And although his predecessors had bin in controuersie at the law vpon that point of long time before: yet notwithstanding he had continued styll in possession and seisure of the said royalties.

And if a man looke more neare into the aduice: he shall fynd that it is against all reason and equitie, to grounde any crime of treason thereupon, because it was not geuen vpon the principall poynt, that is to wyt, whether the fortification should be made or no, whereof the Lord of Brederoode made no doubt nor scruple at al: but only vpon the manner and forme of the fortificatiō. which notwithstanding could not haue bin folowed, vnesse the poynt goyng afoze, were fully concluded and agreed vpon, whereto none but the onely Lorde of Brederoode should be bound to answer. And it maketh not to the matter, that



the fortification was put in execution after the commotions. For seeing that the aduice was geuen before: respecte ought to be had to the same tyme.

wheras it is auouched that we shold haue suffred the said Lord of Brederode to leuie men of warre in the citie of Antwerp in the open sight & knowlege of al men, contrary to the expresse order then newly taken and proclaymed, & to slyp them to the towne of Maauen, with all maner of munitions of warre. This shall serue for answeare, that although my commyng to the citie of Andwerpe was onely to keepe it in quiet and in obedience to the kinges maiestie, which thing may appeare by the Regents letters & sent both to me and to the Magistrate of the town, yea & euē by the confession of the Attorney generall conteyned in the said Summons: yet notwithstanding as soone as I vnderstood of the sayd leuying, and of the place where it was done: I declared it to the magistrate, and to the Markgraue, who is the chiefe Officer of the Towne, & vnto whom it belonged to looke to those and such other accidentes, and I commaunded hym (accordyng to the charge that the Regent had geuen me by her letter directed to me in that behalfe) that he

g It appeareth by her letters dated the. 12. of Iuly. 1566.

he should apprehend and attach the parties that dyd it. wherupon the Markgrauē departyng from me, and findyng the parties at a Table together, which were reported to be the makers of the sayd Mustres: in stede of executing my commaundement, sate downe with the, and afterwarde reported to me that he could not find them: by meanes wherof they had oportunitie to get them secretly away.

It was very true, that long tyme before these alterations, I presented the Lord of Brederode with thre peeces of great Ordinance, which I caused to be shot new againe afterward at Utreight (a Towne of the kynges maiesties) in the open sight of all men, and sent them to the said Lord, howbeit long tyme before the sayd mustryng, when he was yet in the kyngs maiesties seruice, and had the charge of certayne Ordinance, vnder hym. So that it is no lesse agaynst reason to blame vs for geuyng and presentyng the sayd artillerie, than to blame them that preferred the sayde Lord of Brederode to the said Lieutenantship of the Ordinance, specially seeing that the same Lord of Brederode beyng assured by the Regent (authorized by the kyngs maiestie, as is sayd afore)

Artillery giuen to the Lorde of Brederode.

fore) that none of the things afozepassed should be layd to his charge, had not any reason to fortific hym selfe, agaynst the kyng. Nothor was there any likelihood of cause why we should refuse the performāce and deliucry of the sayd gyft, which we had promised hym before, and which he knew to be redy and appoynted afoze hande for hym, and to be as neare Uiane as vtreyght.

The wordes  
contained in  
the Sum-  
mons.

Therfore to come to y<sup>e</sup> pithe of y<sup>e</sup> said Summons, the effect wherof was that I should forbid certaine of the kynges maiesties places and cities, to receyue his garrisons, and among other places, in Zeland, whether it is expzessely said, that we sent men to take it, thereby to shut the kyng out, and to stop his maiesties passage by sea: I doo not thinke that euer I vsed any suche speache as might minister occasion to deuise that accusation, or to cause it to be surmised, that if our part had had sufficient prooze of it, they should haue bin aduieu to haue specified the tyme and place, seyng that all accusers are bounde of right to such specification. Yet notwithstanding for as much as Zeland is named among others, I wyllyngly graunt, that knowyng and hauyng oftentimes informed the Counsaile of the importance of  
that



that Countrey, & being aduertised that there was a drift in practising agaynst it, I sent the Lord Bourtel thither, to the end that no men of warre should be receiued there, without myne appoyntment, accordyng to the ordinary maner & custome, which is, that no such thing may be done in those countreys, but by the commaundement of the Gouvernour of them. And I confesse also that hauing receyued aduertisement from the Captayne of Zeburge which is a fortres in the Ile of Walcheren, a part of Zeland aforesayd, which was all vnder my gouernement) that two hundred souldiers were arryued there, sent from the Regent, to enter into the sayd Fortresse, & that he could not receiue them, as well for feare of some mutinie of his owne men, which were unpaid, and woulde not abide that others stronger than the selues should so openly step in among them: as also because of the streynesse of the place, and for scarcitie of victuals: I sent him word agayn, that I thought his reasons very good, & that he should not receyue any souldiers there, without further commission from the Regent, and from vs as Gouvernor there. Of the which distresses the Regent being likewise aduertised by the Captayn, became

All this appeereth by many letters sent in Marche. an.  
1567.

became of the same opinion that I was of: and sendyng money to pay the soldiers, tooke order that of the two hundred, no more but fiftie should be receiued, whiche entered in anon after, by our commaundement to the Capteine by our letters.

Now when report was made to the Regent how I had commaunded the said Lord of Bourtell to receiue no garrison into the Ile, no not euen though it were sent from her highnesse: I intended to haue excused my selfe by my letters: howbeit that at that tyme such order had not bin expedient, bycause that as then I was at Antwerp & hir highnesse at Brussels, who in like cases concerning my gouernement; had not bin wont to do any thyng without making of me priuy to it afore, and therefore I assured my selfe that she would not send any garrison into the Ile, without making me of counsell therewith, seyng she might do it without let or delay: whereas on the contrary part, vnder pretence of the sayd garrison, the forresse might be surprised, (as hath bin seene to haue happened diuers times vnto others) for the which I might afterward haue bin driuen and constrained to aunswere, by much more apparaunt reasons than are now

now made to accuze me withall . In so much that for the more assurance of the sayd fortresse and countrey, I had good reason to forbyd the sayd Capteine and all others, (yea and that euen by special and expresse commaundement) to receiue any garrison , bycause the fortresse was sufficiently prouided for already, and the want of vittells should bee increaced by the ouer increacing of the garrison.

By reason wherof, and for asmuch as the other places and Cities of the Countrey haue alwayes offered to spend their bodies and goods in his Maiesties seruice , & haue certified him that they needed no garrison, by sendyng their deputies to the Gouvernesse for the same purpose: there was no likelihode at all that I shoulde by that meanes surprize the sayd Countrey, and by that shift shet out the kynges Maiestie, and cut of his passage by sea , seyng that the very deede it selfe hath bewrayed and shewed the contrarie .

For at such tyme as certeine Barkes loden with men whom I had put out of Andwerp by open Proclamation for the better assurace of the rest and quietnesse of the towne, came befoze the Ile: the inhabitauntes did set themselves at defence, & would not suffer them to take land,



lād, so that beyng fayne to take ship and  
 retorne backe agayne, they were after-  
 ward discomfited vpon the riuer about  
 Andwerp, for want of vittels arimour &  
 other needefull thyngs, notwithstanding  
 that they had caused it to be bryted that  
 they would go to the ayde of the Lorde  
 of Bredrode. which thing caused great  
 vproze and hurlyburly in the Towne,  
 where both the Lord of Hoochestrade &  
 J, were often in daunger of our lynes,  
 (by reason of the Magistrates toward-  
 liness in that he durst not shew himself,  
 which gaue great occasiō of the vproze,  
 to the breach of y<sup>e</sup> peace there stablised)  
 bycause it was thought that we letted  
 the succours that some intended to haue  
 ministred vnto them, (together with the  
 outrages that leawd folkes attempted  
 to practize,) howbeit that in the ende  
 through Gods goodnesse we appeazed  
 all without any bludshed. which dea-  
 lyng of ours argueth vs to haue bin  
 farre of from sending thoe mē into Ze-  
 land to surprize the Countrey, in asmuch  
 as all our doynges tended to the con-  
 trary. For had that bin our purpose,  
 wee shoulde not haue commaunded the  
 Capteyne and the men of that Coun-  
 trey to receiue no mē of warre, but con-  
 trarywise to haue receyued them and  
 taken

taken them in: and it appeered so much the more, in that wee offered the men of Andwerp, to goe out of the Towne and to discōfite the assembly our selues, with such company as was there which thyng was misliked of for feare of commotiō, which discovered it selfe after the sayd discomfiture as hath bin sayd afore.

Now then seyng there was no loo-  
kyng for his Maiesties cōmyng by sea: there was not any likelyhod that by the takyng of Zeland wee ment to stop his passage and to shet him out of it, whiche thyng (cōsideryng how the townes and fortresses were at his Maiesties deuotion) it was not possible for vs to do by sending me without head, without capteine, without authoritie, without expresse cōmaundement from vs, & which could not bee receiued there bycause of our order taken to the contrary: but in that case we should haue bin there personally in the Countrey, whereby I should haue giuen some cause for men to thinke, that folke would euery where haue stooped to me as to their gouernour, and haue yelded me their accustomed obediēce, as they had done in all o-  
ther Cities and holdes of our gouernement: for that had bin a more apparant and sure meanes, than to send thither a  
sorte

sort of rascall fellowes, vnarmed vngoverned, and vnguided (for whom we should at leastwise haue prouided in a case, beyng so well able to doe it by meanes of the towne of Andwerp as euery man knowes) and which were afterward dispatched in manner without any resistance or defence, in somuch that no man hauyng any experience of the warres, would haue trusted to them in an exploit of importāce, and much lesse I, who had farre better meanes to assure me of the Countrey, if I had mynded it, as I did not. And therfore I maruell that men of skill and wisdomē wil vse such allegations, whercof they not only nother haue nor euer shal haue any prooffe, but also which haue not in them any shewe of likelyhode.

The accusation concerning Andwerp.

Wherfore to come to the poynt of the sayd Summons, which auoucheth that beyng in Antwerp to appeaze the troubles and vpproies of the people, we suffered and graunted the exercise of all sectes to go at libertie in the towne indifferently: it is to be cōsidered that before I tooke my charge vppon me, I declared openly in full Counsell of the states, that it laye not in me nor was myne intent to take vppon me to suppress the preaching (whiche was then  
mat-



ched with the exercize of the Religion as  
a necessary appurtenance of the same)  
which charge (as I toke it) I haue per-  
formed w<sup>th</sup> vnspeakable trauell, thought  
and care, by the aduice of the mē of law  
of the citie, & of the faculties of the mar-  
chauntes, all the which confessed & that  
by my meanes and order they accounted  
them selues assured of the quietnesse of  
the Towne, thankyng vs for it with al  
their hartes.

whiche thyng falleth out in effect to  
be confirmed approued and cōfessed by  
the Regent also, who hauyng commit-  
ted the keepyng of the citie in quietnes,  
to the Countie of Doochestraten, in our  
absence, while we were pacifying the  
Countreys of Holland Zeland and U-  
treycht, inioyned and appoynted him  
expresly, to followe the steppes that I  
had gone before him. whiche thyng ne-  
uerthelcse they do now go about to de-  
face, chaungyng the thynges that were  
openly allowed, into the crime of hygh  
treason, agaynst all likelyhode of truth.  
For I graunted not any Religion one  
or other in the towne, but only suffered  
& bare with such as had begō to preach  
openly before my comyng thither, ac-  
cording to my declaration heretofore  
blamed. For although y<sup>e</sup> Regēt shewed  
F. i. suffi-

h It appea-  
reth by  
their owne  
report  
made the  
4. of Sept.  
1566.

i It appea-  
reth by her  
letters of  
the. 4. 5. and  
8. of Octob.  
1566.

sufficiently that she hild with all Reli-  
gions which agreed not with the Ro-  
mish Religiō, & esteemed of them all a-  
like, as namely with the Anabaptistes,  
agaynst whom I was desirous to haue  
made publicke defence if her hyghnesse  
had liked it: yet did I put all such to si-  
lence, as did put the selues forth to be-  
gynne any preachynges after my com-  
myng thither.

Moreover the preachings that were  
made without the towne, were not re-  
ceiued into the towne by vs: but when  
I was called to the Court, without ha-  
uyng obtained that some other bodye  
might be substituted in my sted to looke  
to the quietnesse of the towne, or that I  
might send a Lieutenant thither, (not-  
withstādyng that I did expressly require  
it): in the meane while some felt to pul-  
tyng downe, destroying, and breakyng  
a sunder of images euery where, & they  
that preached erst without the towne,  
began to get them Churches, yea euen  
by authoritie of the magistrate. And (af-  
ter the composition made betweene the  
Regent authorized by the kyng, and the  
contederates) & when as in the end they  
were contented to haue left vppre their  
Churches agayne, and to haue conti-  
nued their preachynges in their accu-  
stomed

k It appee-  
reth by the  
agreement  
made the 23  
of August.  
1566.

stomed places without the town accordyng to the compositiō: the Magistrate thought it / more expediēt for many cōsiderations, to graunt and assigne them places within the Towne. By meanes wherof, when the parties were once agreed, I could do no lesse by vertue of my Commission, but followe the composition.

1 It appeareth by their owne report made the 24. of August. 1566.

For in asinuch as I was sent to keepe the towne in quiet, and in loyaltie to the kyng: it was our dewty to fraine our selues to that whiche we sawe they had settled in vnitie and quiet, specially cōsidering the weyghtinesse of the reasons that had moued the towneshmen to consent to the thynges aforesayd, (whereof I did the aduertize as well the kyng as the Regent,) besides that it was not possible to keepe the peace without suffering of the sayd preachynges and the exercizyng of the Religion out of hand, the necessitie of which exercise offered it selfe welncere hourely by reason of the multitudes that followed the Sermons, whiche were sayne to be suffered euery where, in somuch that they were vsed openly in Churches, which was the cause that the Magistrate thought it good & needefull to suffer, not only the exercise, but also the erection of Churches. And

m It appeareth by their letters sent in September. 1566.



that so much the rather, bycause winter was at hand, by reason whereof, otherwise an other second inuasion was to be feared, wherein the other churches were like to haue bin taken: and therfore the Magistrate was not only willyng but also desirous to further the sayd Churches: whereunto bycause we sawe that all others had no lesse good will thā he: wee thought it stood not in any wise with our dewtye, to hinder the thyng that might assure vs of the execution of our charge.

The same may also serue vs for answer, in respect of their cōsistories, in as much as both before our coming, yea and euē before there was any publike preaching, the Protestants kept their Consistories, (for in dede they had their consistories euerywhere euē in all tymes) & also because that although we neuer cōsented vnto them, yet we neuer saw any likelyhood of trouble to insewe by meanes of them. It is very true, that to let the assemblyng of the cōmon people vpon enery occasion, I affirmed and thought good, that some should be appointed to deale in the name of all the rest, because I saw no way els to performe my charge, and to mainteine and preserue the peace, and to auoyd all confusion

fusion and disorder.

Againe, I could not perceiue that any inconuenience or danger should follow of their building of Churches (as some surmized, ) seeing that a Church could cause no more euil than a house or any other place; and that for as much as I was sent to kepe the citie in peace and tranquillitie, it behoued me for the auoyding of all inconueniences, rather to disappoynt the occasions and purposes of attaynyng thereunto, than to styre vp & prouoke the parties by impeachyng the erection of a Church, or by any such other meane, and so to giue occasion of other troubles, whiche it should haue bin impossible to haue ouerruled afterward, without doynge directly agaynst our Commission, and without setting of all thynges in a broyle.

Also this may serue partly for a solution to the last part of the foresayde Summons, which conteyneth that I should suffer the leuying, taxing, and gatherynge of money to be imployed afterward vpon the receyving of souldiers and men of warre. For I know of none other leuyinges, taxations, and gatheryngs, than onely such as were made afore my comynge, for the reliefe

of the poore , and the maintenaunce of the Ministers , and afterwarde for the building of the Churches. And it shall neuer be found that any collection was made to my benefice, or imployed vpon the leuying of souldiers , or vpon the intertaynement of men on myne owne behalf, by reason wherof I should haue apparant occasion to suffer the said taxations and collections.

Moreover , my refusing of the fiftie thousand florens that were offered me from the accountantes by the States of Holland, for the good seruise that I had done to the kyng and the Countrey during the troubles, by appealing the vprores there, dooth (as I thinke) sufficiently shew, that it was not mine intent to suffer any such collections, taxations and leuyings , which it was not otherwise possible to let in Cities of traffike, as in Antwerp, where ther was in manner nothing els but gatherying of money for diuers purposes.

For as much therfore as I haue most euidently ( as I hope ) shewed that no euyl or inordinate affection of mine, vpon any ambitious desire to vsurpe aboue the authoritie of the kyng, ( wherof all our countenances, sayinges, and doinges haue bin cleare, yea and cleane  
contrary



contrary to it ) hath bin the cause of any trouble , as wherby we could not haue hoped for any benefite , so that I was not the cause of any innouation , that might set the people in any broyle or vniquietnesse : but that on the contrary part , the sayd Cardinall of Brannill, was the cause of al the said innouations and of al the mistikynge that was ingendred afterward betwene the king and the people , by his vsurping of extraordinary authoritie aboue all the Counsels, yea and euen aboue the Regent, in hope to mainteyne , augment , and increase the same his authoritie by institutyng of new Bishops, by confirming of the Inquisition , and by renewyng of the Iniunctions, to satisfie his owne ambition and couctousnesse , whiche caryed hyin away so headlōg at other times also, that he dyd set dissension and mistiking betwene great Potentates, yea and euen betwene the late right high and happy Princes. Charles the Emperour, and his brother Ferdinand and his sonnes : I thinke that such as are of iudgement , and haue experience in matters, wyll not sticke either to acquit me of the mischiefes and inconueniencies that haue happened in the said countreys, and of the alteration of the appa-

rant felicitie thereof, into extreme bondage, penurie, and wretchednesse: or to charge the said Cardinall with them, whom men go about to set vp againe in authoritie, by the ouerthrow and destruction of the countrey, in recompence not of any good seruise of his, (for the which, had he done neuer so many and so great good turnes, he and his had sufficiently cut out their own shares already, without leauynge any part to the discretion of the kings maiestie) but of the mischiefes & inconueniences abovesaid, and to giue hym oportunitie to worke in: wheras al our seruises done to the great damage and hinderance both of vs and of our auncestours, of whom some haue dyed in his seruise, and euen at the fecte of his Imperiall maiestic, are forgotten, and we spoyled, not only of our goodes, by trifling, false, and surmised causes, reasons, and allegations, and by such kind of proceedings as are vtterly against all right, law, and custome, (as hath bin shewed heretofore, and by another writing of ours:) but also of our honour and our childe, which are things dearer to vs than our lyfe: all which is to the preiudice, not only of vs, but also of the kyngs maiestic, of whose covenants, bonds, othes,

and

It appeareth by the  
disproofe &  
auoydance  
sent to the  
Attorney  
generall, &  
to the Duke  
of Alua, the  
1. of March  
1568.

and promises there is no regard at all had, which is so vnorderly, vnrasonable, and spitefull a kind of dealing, as it can not be auoyded, but that it must one day breede some inconuenience, which I beseech God, that the kyngs maiestie being inlightened with his diuine brightnesse and light, may turne away and preuent, and rightly take intelligence of the dooynges of his good seruants and faithfull subiectes, which are now wrongfully sclaundered, persecuted, and afflicted; so as the world may know that the thinges which haue passed, proceeded not of his maiesties own nature, but of the misreportes, tales, and sclaunders of such as haue disguised the truth, and concealed it from hym, euen to this houre.

¶ The Summons or Citation  
sent out against the Prince  
of Orendge.

Nouemb. i.



Philip by the grace of God,  
kyng of Castile, Lyons, Aragon, and Nauarre. &c. To  
our chiefe Hussher or Serie-  
ant at Armes, vpon this re-  
quired, Greeting. We are informed by  
our welbeloued and faithfull Counsell-  
ler



ler and Attorney general, that the Lord William of Nassaw Prince of Orledge, hauyng receiued both of our late Lorde and Father the right noble Emperour Charles the fift, (to whom God grant rest) and also of vs since our comyng to our state, many honors and promotions, as our choozing of hym to be a brother of our own Order, our naming and admitting of hym to be of our counsell of estate, and our preferring of hym to diuers goodly Rookes, Charges, & Offices: as namely to the gouernment of Burgundie, Holland, Zeland, and Vtreight, together with the Licutenantship of our Ordinaunce, besides a number of other notable rewardes, wherby he might see the great trust and estimation that I alwayes had of hym, in respect wherof he should do the more amisse, in behauing hym selfe otherwise than becomes a good subiect. Yet notwithstanding, hauyng small regard of his owne honour, and to the othes of faithfulnessse and loyaltie, which he had geuen to vs as to his soneraigne Lord, and in respect of the sayd Order, and of the sayde Rookes and Offices, hath made hym selfe the head author, further, fauorer, and harbrower of Rebels, Conspirators, Coniurators, mutiners,

prieue

priuie practizers, and disturbers of the  
 common welfare and quietnesse. For as  
 it were immediately after our departure  
 out of that Countrey, towarde our  
 Realme of Spayne, he and certayne o-  
 thers practised to take vpon them & to vs-  
 surpe the whole ordering and gouer-  
 nyng of our Countreys therewith. And for the accom-  
 plishment thereof, he  
 wrought and conueied many secret and  
 pernicious practises, wherein he ouer-  
 shot hym selfe so farre, as to determyne  
 to enter into armes agaynst vs, and to  
 exclude vs out of those Countreys,  
 which thing he hath not fayled to do so  
 farre as he was able, by vsyng all kinde  
 of curtisie flyly towarde our good sub-  
 iectes, to withdrawe them from the lo-  
 uynghesse and loyaltie which they haue  
 alwayes shewed to vs and our prede-  
 cessors. Yea, and which is so much the  
 more detestable and horrible, vnder the  
 cloke and pretence of Religion, and  
 through false perswasion, that our in-  
 tent should be (which was neuer so) to  
 bring the Spanish Inquisition into those  
 our Countreys, in so much that by his  
 like inductions and impressions, many  
 of our subiects haue rizen vp and rebel-  
 led agaynst vs, and specially the sayde  
 prince hath seduced, corrupted, and stir-  
 red

red by a great part of the noble men, &  
 gētlē, so as they haue made leagues,  
 conspiracies, & coniurations, & sworne  
 to defend & strengthen themselves ther-  
 by against vs and against our ordina-  
 ces which haue bin alwayes kept and  
 obserued in those Countreys. And for  
 the same purpose he hath made assem-  
 blyes in his owne houses, as well at  
 Breda, as in this our city of Brusselles,  
 yea and afterward receyued the Rebels  
 into his protection and safegard, with  
 promise of his assistance. Whereupon  
 they haue put them selues in Armes a-  
 gainst vs in diuers places of the coun-  
 trey. Also the sayd Prince hath counseled  
 and ayded the Lord of Brederoode cheef  
 Capteine of the Rebelles, to fortifie his  
 towne of Miane agaynst vs, and suffe-  
 red him to leuie men of warre in our  
 Citie of Andwerp in the open sight and  
 knowledge of all men, contrary to the  
 orders then newly taken and proclay-  
 med, and to shyp them to the sayd town  
 of Miane with all manner of warrelike  
 munitions, mozeouer furnishing the  
 sayd Lord of Brederoode with certeine  
 peeces of artillerie, besides that he for-  
 bade certeine towns & places to receiue  
 any garrisons frō vs, & among others,  
 our countrey of Zeland, vnto the which  
 he



he sent men of purpoze to surprize it, &  
 by that meanes to shet vs out, & to stop  
 our passage by sea. Furthermoze where  
 as the sayd Prince was sent to our Ci-  
 tie of Andwerp to pacifie the trubbles  
 and commotions of the people: he of his  
 owne pziuate authoritie and besides his  
 commission, hath permitted and graun-  
 ted the exercize of all sectes indifferently  
 in the Citie, and giue the sectaries leaue  
 to erect many Temples and Consisto-  
 ries, according whereunto they were e-  
 rected in deede, whereof haue insewed  
 the incōueniēces & dangers which eue-  
 ry man knowes of. Also he hath suffered  
 leuyinges, taxations, and collections of  
 money to bee made, whiche afterward  
 were imployed about the payment and  
 wagynge of men of warre. Many other  
 thyngs hath he done durynge his abode  
 there, whiche our Attourney shall de-  
 clare moze at large, & make apparāt in  
 dew tyme & place, if neede be. Al which  
 thynges tend to his foresayd drift, that  
 by that meanes hee might vsurpe vpon  
 our subiectes, & take vpon him the au-  
 thoritie that belongeth allonly vnto vs,  
 which is apparātly high trayson not to be  
 borne w nor to be winked at, but wor-  
 thy of punishment and correction to the  
 example of others, if it be as our said  
 Attour-

Attourney sayt , who requireth that it  
 may please vs to graunt him cōuenient  
 prouision accordyng to the crime, with  
 clauze of authoritie agaynst the sayde  
 prince of Orēge. Therefore be it knowen  
 to you , that we hauyng considered the  
 thynges aforesayd, doe commaunde and  
 authorize you by theis presentes , that at  
 the request of our sayd Counseler & At-  
 tourney generall, you put forth your  
 selfe, and (with such ayde and assistance  
 as you shall thinke meete,) attache and  
 apprehende by the body the sayd Prince  
 of Orēge wheresoeuer ye shall fynde  
 him in our sayde Countreys heere, and  
 him leade and conuey vnder good & sure  
 gard, to the prisons of our Court in our  
 sayd Citie of Brussels, there to appeere  
 before our right deere and trusty Cou-  
 sin, Knight of our order, Gouvernour &  
 Capteyne generall for vs of our sayde  
 Countreys the Duke of Alua, Marquis  
 of Toria &c. appointed purposely by vs  
 for the same matter, & to receiue punish-  
 ment and correction for his sayd crimes  
 and cōspiracies, accordyng to the desert  
 of them, as shalbe founde meete by rea-  
 son and equitie in that case. And that if  
 you cannot take or apprehend him, ye sū-  
 mon him and cite him by publicke pro-  
 clamacion and crye, vnder peine of per-  
 petuall

petuall banishmēt and forseynture of his  
 goodes, to appeere personally within thē  
 fiftenees then next insewng (whereof  
 you shal assigne him the first fiftene for  
 the first day, the secōd fiftene for the se-  
 cōd day, and the thirde for the last & per-  
 emptory day of lawe without looking  
 for any moe) before our sayd Cousin the  
 Duke of Alua, in our sayd Towne of  
 Brusselles, or in such other place as he  
 shall then bee within our low Coun-  
 treys, to answere to such points and ar-  
 ticles as our sayde Attourney generall  
 shall take and chooze agaynst him, con-  
 cernyng the foresayd matters and others,  
 that by keepyng of the day hee may set  
 them downe and debate them more at  
 large accordyng to his Commissiō, and  
 proceede further therein, and see what is  
 to be done accordyng to reaso. And you  
 shall signifie to the sayd Prince, that if hee  
 come not at the first, second, or thirde and  
 last fiftene dayes: Iustice shall proceede  
 agaynst him in his absence, as is conueni-  
 ent in such cases. And whatsoeuer you  
 shall haue done in that behalfe, we will  
 haue you to certifie our sayd Cousin the  
 Duke of Alua thereof sufficiently at the  
 sayd day: to whom we giue commissiō  
 and speciall charge for the causes afore  
 sayd, that vpon the heeryng of the par-  
 ties,



ties, hee doe and minister, good, short,  
 rightfull, and reasonable Justice, as be-  
 commeth in such cases. And if the Prince  
 of Orendge bee stubborne and make de-  
 fault: we will that he proceede to y<sup>e</sup> pro-  
 nouncynge of the sayd banishment, & to  
 the proclayming of the sayd forfeiture,  
 and to the executyng of all such other  
 thyngs as he shall see meete to be done,  
 by right and reason in that case. And so  
 to do, we geue you full power and au-  
 thoritie and speciall commission. Char-  
 gyng and commaundyng all our Justi-  
 ces Officers and subiectes to obey you  
 in doying hereof, and to attend diligent-  
 ly vppon you, and to geue you counsell  
 ayde and comfort, and prizonroome al-  
 so if neede bee & that you require it. For  
 so is our pleasure. And bycause the sayd  
 Prince of Orendge (as we heere say)  
 hath gotten him selfe away out of our  
 countreys: our will is in that case, that the  
 summons & citatio which you shal make  
 by Proclamation and open cry within  
 the barres of our Court at Bruxelles, &  
 your setting vp of the Coppyes of this  
 our presentes together with your sayd  
 doynge, and your castyng of them in  
 at the outtermost part of the Prince of  
 Orendges houses within our countreys,  
 & your stickyng vp of like Coppyes vpo  
 the

the doores and Jawmes of the cheef church there, to the intent he may not be able to pretende ignoraunce, shalbe of as good force, valew, & power, as if it had bin done to the sayd Prince of Ordegis some person, & for such haue we authorized & do authorize the said Summons and Citatio by theis presentes. But for asmuch as other men haue commission to deale with the takyng of the Inuentorie of the sayd Princes goods, meddle not you with them. Given in our sayd Citie of Brussels, the xix. day of January, the yeere of grace 1567: and the yeere of our reigne, ouer Spayne, Sicile, &c. the xix: and ouer Naples, the xv. It was subscribed thus: By the kyng. And vnder written thus, Mesdach. And sealed with a Seale of red wax vppon a halfe labell.

¶ A Copie of the Serieant at  
Armes doynge.

No. i.

**B**y vertew of the letters patesentes of personall Summons wherof the Copy is set word for word heere before, I Francis Knibber ordinary Serieant at armes to the prince & the great Counsels, haue this present xxiiij. day of January the  
B. i. yeere

yeece 1567. at the request and instance of  
 the kynges Maiesties Counseller and  
 Attourney generall the obtainer of the,  
 came into the Listes of the Court at  
 Brusselles at eleuen of the clocke in the  
 forenoone, where hauyng caused the  
 Trumpets to be sounded I haue with  
 lowed voyce and open crye red the sayd  
 letters patentes, and by the vertew of  
 the same, summoned and cited william  
 of Nassawe Prince of Orendge on the  
 kynges Maiesties behalfe, to come and  
 appeere personally, from fifteene dayes  
 to fifteene dayes in. tymes, wherof the  
 first fifteene shalbe the ix. day of Februa-  
 ry, the second fifteene shalbe the xxv. of  
 the same moneth, and the third and last  
 fifteene which is the preemptric day of  
 law without lookyng for any mo, shal-  
 be the eleuenth day of Marche follow-  
 yng. And this to be done before the hygh  
 and mighty Duke of Alua, (Marquis of  
 Cozia &c. Knight of the order, and Go-  
 uernour and Capteine generall for the  
 kynges Maiestie in his low countreys)  
 in the sayd Citie of Brusselles, or in any  
 such other place as my Lorde the sayde  
 Duke shal then be: vpon Peyne of perpe-  
 tuall bannishment and forfeyture of all  
 goodes belonging to the sayd Prince of  
 Orledge: there to answer to such points  
 and



and Articles as the sayd Attourney general shall list to take & chooze agaynst him, and mozeouer, as is reherced moze at large in the sayd letters patentes. Done vnder my signe manuell the day, moneth, and yeere aboue written. Underneath was written thus: Conferred and founde to agree, by me. And it was signed thus. Knibber.

¶ An abstract of the last Letters & writynges sent by the kyng to the Lady No. 2.  
Regent, together with the last dispatch concernyng the cace of Religion.

**F**irst as touchyng the Iniunctions and decrees as wel old as new wich concerne the cace of Religion, his maiestie vnderstandyng in what state Religion stode in those quarters, thought it not expedient to make any chaunge or alteration of them, but that as well the Iniunctions of the late Emperours Maiestie, as his owne Maiesties Iniunctions should be put in executiō: for he saw that the cause of all the mischief that had happened, & the cause of the increasyng & spreadyng of it so farre, had bin the negligence, cowardynesse, and dissimulation of the Judges. And therefore if there were any

of them that either durst not or would not execute their office for feare of some hurlyburly: they should aduertize his Maiestie, that he might provide others of moze corage and better zeale towards the execution of thynges, wherof there ought to be no want in that Countrey where there is such store of Catholikes, and so many desirous to do Gods his Maiestie seruice: by the doyng wherof & the executyng of the Iniunctions, there was good hope that y hurt which was done there, would better and sooner be remedied, than by any other way.

Secondly, as touchyng the Inquisitors of the fayth, his Maiestie chargeth hir highnesse to beare such an euē hand, as they might be fauored in the executiō of their Commission, as the thyng that was expedient for the benefite and upholdyng of the Religion: for it was his Maiesties mynde that the Inquisition should be executed by the Inquisitors as it had bin thitherto, and as belonged to them by the lawes of God and man: affirmyng that it was no new thyng, for as much as it had bin vled cōtinewally, as well in the tyme of the late Emperour, as in his owne tyme, and the inconueniences that were to be feared were much apparanter, neerer, and greater, where

where the Inquisitors were not suffered to provide for things accordyng to their office, nor ayded in their doynge. And for asmuch as hir highnesse knew what that meant, his Maestie charged hir to do what she could in that behaife, (for it was very requisite that she should so doe) and not to consent that any other thyng should bee treated of in that behaife, because hir highnesse knew how neere it touched hys hart, and what pleasure and contentation it would bee unto hym.

Wherby, his Maestie tooke order with her highnesse, that sith the holy Councell of Trent was already published, so as ther remayned now no more to doo, but the putting therof in execution, which was a thyng that belonged to the Bishops: her highnesse shoulde give them all the furtherance and helpe that she possibly coulde, that it might take effect as it ought to doo. Also he would that the Decrees of the Councell of Trent that concerned the reformation of the lyues and maners of the Clergie, should be put in execution: charging as well hir highnesse, as all his Officers, to favour and further them by all requisite meanes: and that if neede should require any further provision to



be made on his maiesties behalfe, shee should cause it to be dispatched out of hande, that euen where the men of the Church would not obey the reformation that was to be made by the bishops, there they might be framed and made conformable by the Decrees of the sayd Councel of Trent.

And finally he affirmed that the thinges which his maiestie had written to her highnesse, as hath bin sayd heretofore, concerned the prosperitie of Religion, and of the countreys there, which would be nothyng worth, without that Order, for that was the onely way to kepe them in iustice, peace, and tranquillitie. And seeing that her highnesse knewe what comoditie it brought: he desired her chylloones to folow that way whereby the foresayde thynges might take effect, for it was the thyng wherby his maiestie should receyue moste contentment, as well at the handes of her highnesse, as of the Lordes that were about her: to whom he would haue her to geue the same charge, to the end they should imploy them selues therunto, as his maiestic hopeth that they wil, without faile, because they be sure that he wil like well of it, besides that they shall therein doo the ductie of such personages

ges as they be, and accordingly as they be bound to doo in respect of their seruise towards God and his maiestie, & in respect both of the benefit of the whole Countrey there, and of their owne peculiar welfare.

¶ Margaret by the grace of God,  
Duchesse of Parma and Pleasance. &c.  
Regent and Gouvernesse. &c.

No. 2.

**R**ight deare and welbeloued, al-  
thoughe that euen from the first  
begynnyng of the reigne of my  
Lord the kyng, ouer these Coun-  
treys, as wel by the reuiuyng and pub-  
lishyng of the Iniunctions and Decrees  
concernyng Religion, made by my late  
Lord of noble memory the Emperour  
Charles (whom God hath receiued in-  
to his glory) and now ratified and con-  
firmed by the kinges maiestie, as by the  
thynges that he hath written vnto you  
since, specially from his last departure  
out of these countreys into his realmes  
of Spayne, you might alwayes well  
perceiue his good zeale and most holy  
affection in maintainyng our annient  
true sayth and Catholike Religion, and  
for the rootyng out of all sectes and he-  
refies in these Countreys here: yet not-  
with-  
B. iij.

withstanding for as muche as it hath  
 pleased his maiestie for certeyne occasi-  
 ons, to reuiue his most holy intent by  
 his late letters: we by expresse com-  
 maundement from hym, haue thought  
 it good to impart vnto you what he  
 hath written vnto vs, the effect wherof  
 is this: that his maiestie coueting no-  
 thing more than the maintenance of the  
 said Religion, and of his good subiectes  
 hereawayes in good quietnesse, peace,  
 vnitie, and concord: and to preserue the  
 from the inconueniences that haue bin  
 seene to happen in many parts of Chri-  
 stendome through the chaunge of the  
 sayd Religion: purpozeth and inten-  
 deth that the Iniunctions and ordinan-  
 ces made as well by the late Emperors  
 Maiestie, as also by hym selfe, shalbe  
 thoroughly kept and obserued, and like-  
 wise that men shall most straytly keepe  
 the Decrees of the holy Councell of  
 Trent, and the prouinciall Councelles,  
 specially in respect of the reformation of  
 the Clergie, without gaynsaying of any  
 thing, to the ende that heresies may be  
 punished, and manners also corrected,  
 and men may yeeld all fauour and assi-  
 stence to the Inquisitors of the fayth in  
 the executing of their office, and that the  
 Inquisition may be put in vze as it hath  
 bin



him hitherto, and as it ought to be by  
 the law of God and man, which thing  
 his Maiestie commaundeth expressly  
 by his said letters. wherfore according  
 to this his maiesties writyng againe, to  
 the intent to obey the same in a thing so  
 holy & so worthy to be fauored, I could  
 not forbear to write thus much unto  
 you, praying and beseeching you, and on  
 his maiesties behalfe expressly commaun-  
 ding you to rule & behaue your selues  
 herein accordyng to his appoyntment,  
 without withstanding of it in any point  
 or article, yea and to giue intelligence  
 therof to the Officers & men of Law of  
 the chiefe townes of the countrey & Vis-  
 chie of Brabant, that they also inaprule  
 the selues accordyng hereunto, without  
 dissembling or working at thynge, un-  
 der the penalties conteyned in the sayd  
 Iniunctions. And that ye may the bet-  
 ter intend vnto it, you shall appoynt  
 and ordeyne a Counsellor of your Col-  
 ledge, (who notwithstanding may be  
 chaunged at every halfe yeare, to the in-  
 tent that no one man be ouerburthened  
 continually) to doo nothing els but to  
 haue an eye to the Countrey of Bra-  
 band, for the keepyng of the Decrees of  
 the said most holy Councell, and to ad-  
 vertize you from tyme to tyme of all oc-  
 currences,

currents, that ye may provide for them  
 accordyng to his Maiesties meanyng.  
 And to the intent we may continually  
 knowe the state of religion, in the poyntes  
 aboue mentioned: we desire and  
 commaund you, as before, to write vnto  
 vs particularly of the successe of thinges  
 from three monethes to three monethes,  
 & to repayre to vs (if there happen any  
 hard poynt) or to such as are of his  
 maiesties priue counsel, that report  
 thereof may be made vnto vs, for the  
 which purpose we likewise wil appoint  
 some Counciller to take peculiar charge  
 thereof, and to be answerable to you, or  
 to hym whom you shall assigne. And  
 to the end that in all the thyngs aboue-  
 sayd, ye may the better perceiue his ma-  
 iesties expresse wyl: we haue caused the  
 poyntes of his letters and other wri-  
 tinges that concerne this matter, to be  
 annexed to this letter, that ye may rule  
 and guide your selues accordyng to the  
 forme & tenor of them, without making  
 any default. And thus right deare and  
 welbeloued, our Lord haue you in his  
 holy keeping. Written at Brussels the  
 xviij. day of December. 1565. H. V. It  
 was subscribed thus: Margaret. And  
 somewhat lower it was signed thus:  
 Of Querloepe. Agayne vpon the backe it  
 was

was imposed thus: To our right deare  
and welbeloued the Chauncelor and men  
of the kynges Counsell in Brabant.

**A Supplication of the Noble**  
men of the low Countrey, presented  
to the Lady Regent the Duchesse  
of Parma and Pleasance, the  
fift of Aprill. 1566.  
before Easter.

No. 3.



Maie, it is well enough  
known, that the people of  
the low Countrey haue al-  
wayes & yet are styll great-  
ly renowned throughout  
all Christendome for their  
great faythfulnesse towards their na-  
turall Lordes and Princes, wherein the  
Nobilitie and Gentlemen haue alwayes  
gone foremost, as they that neuer spared  
either body or goodes, in the maynte-  
nance and increasement of their Prin-  
ces states. And in the same manner we  
his maiesties most humble subiects are  
willed to continue styll; from well to  
better, so as we be ready night and day  
to doo hym humble seruys both with  
our bodies & our goodes. And for as  
much as we see in what plight thinges  
stand at this present, we haue chozen ra-  
ther



ther to hazard the bryngyng of some  
 mislikyng and displeasure vppon our  
 owne heades, than to conceale suche  
 thynges from your highnesse, as might  
 hereafter turne to the preiudice of the  
 kyngs maiestie, and therewithal disturb  
 the peace and quietnesse of the Countrey.  
 Hoppyng that the euent wyll shewe in  
 time, that of al the seruises which we ei-  
 ther haue done, or shal doo to his maie-  
 stie hereafter, this is worthy to be take  
 for one of the noblest, and to best pur-  
 poze: in respect wherof we be thorough-  
 ly perswaded, that your highnesse can  
 not but take it in good worth. There-  
 fore Madam, although we doubt not  
 but that all that euer his maiestie hath  
 decreed both heretofore, and now new-  
 ly again at this present, concerning the  
 Inquisition, and the streight obseruynge  
 of the Iniunctions in the case of Religio,  
 haue some good grounde and iust title,  
 namely for the continuynge of the thyn-  
 ges which the late Emperour of noble  
 memorie Charles, had vpon very good  
 meanyng determined and stablished:  
 yet notwithstanding, seeing that the di-  
 uersitie of tymes bringeth diuersitie of  
 remedies with them, and the sayd In-  
 iunctions haue already geuen occasion  
 of many griefes and inconueniences  
 now

now many yeares since, for all the executing of them with extreme rigour. Surely his Maiesties last resolution whereby he not only forbiddeth the mitigating of the Iniunctions any whyt at all, but also commaundeth expressly that the Inquisition should proceede, and the Iniunctions be executed with all rigour: doth giue vs sufficient cause of iust feare that therby not onely the inconueniences wyl be greatly augmented: but also there wyl in the end insue some general commotion and insurrection, tending to the miserable ruine of the whole Countrey, accordyng as the manifest tokens of mutinie among the people, (which appeareth already euerywhere) doo shewe vs openly to the eye.

wherefore considering the apparāce and greatnesse of the dangers that manace vs, we haue hoped hitherto, that either the Lordes or els the states of the Countrey would haue aduertized your highnesse therof one tyme or other, that you might haue remedyed it by removing the cause and grounde of the mischief. But when we saue that they did not put forth theselues to do it, by reason of sum occasions to vs unknowne, and that in the meane while the mischief increased frō day to day, so as it was lyke  
to

to come to a generall insurrection and  
 revolt: we haue thought it our deuotie  
 so wayt no longer tyme, but rather ac-  
 cording to the othe of our faith and al-  
 leageaunce, matched with good meening  
 and zeale towards his Maiestie and  
 the countrey, to put forth our selues fore-  
 most in doyng our needefull indenter, &  
 that so much the more frankly, as we  
 haue more cause to hope that his Maie-  
 stie will take our aduertizement in ve-  
 ry good part, for asmuch as the matter  
 toucheth vs much neerer than any o-  
 thers, as them that lye more open to the  
 inconueniences and calamities that are  
 customably wout to spring of like acci-  
 dents, bycause the most part of vs haue  
 our houses and possessions situate in the  
 open fieldes, redy for all men to pray v-  
 pon: and also forasmuch as if we should  
 follow the rigour of the sayd Iniunctiōs,  
 in such wise as his Maiestie commaun-  
 deth vs expressly to procede, there should  
 not generally be any man amōg vs, no  
 nor in all the Countreys hecraboutes, of  
 whatsoeuer calling state or degree hee  
 were, which should not rounne in daun-  
 ger of losse both of body and goodes, &  
 bee subiect to the slaunder of hym that  
 would bee his enemye who to haue a  
 share of his goodes so forfeited, might  
 accuse



accuse him vnder pretēce of the sayd In-  
iunctions, wherein there was none o-  
ther refuge left for the defēdant, but on-  
ly if the officer listēd to winke at him, at  
whose curtesie both his life & his goods  
did wholly stād. In consideration wher-  
of, we haue the more cause to beseeche  
your highnes most humbly, (& so do we  
in deede by this our Supplication) to  
vouchsafe to take some order in the case,  
& (bycause it is a matter of great impor-  
tance) to send a fit and conuenient per-  
son to the Kynges Maiestie with all  
speede possible, to aduertize him therof,  
& to beseech him most hūbly on our be-  
halfe, that it may please him to prouide  
remedy in that behalfe as well for heere  
after as for the p̄sent tyme. And that  
for asmuch as that cānot be done by suf-  
feryng the sayd Injunctions to stand in  
force, bycause they bee the very wel-  
spring and roote frō whence all the sayd  
inconueniences spryng it may please  
him to giue eare to the abolishyng of  
them: which he shall finde to be necessa-  
ry for the turnyng away of the vniuer-  
sall ruine & destruction of all his coun-  
treys heere.

And to the intent his Maiestie may  
haue no cause to thinke, that we which  
haue none other meenyng than to yela-  
him

him most humble scruiſ, would take vpon vs to bridle him and to bynd hym to the ſtake at our pleaſure, as we doubt not but our aduerſaries will incēſe him to our diſaduantage: it may pleaſe him to make other ordinaūces by the aduiſe and conſent of all the States aſſembled generally together, to prouide for the things abouelaid, by ſum other meathes more fit and conuenient, and without any evident daunger.

Alſo we moſt humbly beſeeche your highnes, that in the meane ſeaſon while his Maieſtie may take intelligence of our iuſt request, and determine thereof accordyng to his good & rightfull pleaſure, you will prouide for the ſayd dangers by a generall ſurceaſſing, as well of the Inquiſition as of all executiō of the ſayd Iniūctions, vntill his Maieſty haue taken other ordze in the matter.

And we proteſt expreſſy, that (aſmuch as in vs lay) we haue diſcharged our dewties by this preſent aduertizement: ſo that we do now vnburthē our ſelues of it befoze God & mē: declaring plainly, that if any inconuenience, diſorder, ſedition, reuolt, or ſtheadyng of blud inſew thereof hereafter for want of redreſſe in tyme, we cannot be blamed of the concealyng of ſo apparāt a miſcheef, wher-

in we take God, the kyng, your highnesse, the Lordes of the Counsell, and our owne consciences to witnesse, that our proceeding therein hath bin as becommeth the kynges good & trusty seruantes, and faythfull subiectes, without passing the boundes of our dewty in any point in respect wherof also, we beseech your highnesse so much the more instancly, to vntersaie to giue eare to it, before any further harme insew thereof. So shall you do well.

¶ The Answer and Replication made to the sayde Supplication in the Counsell of the States by the Lady Regent, was as followeth.

**H**er highnesse hauyng considered the petitions & demaunders contained in the said Supplication, is fully determined to send it to the kyngs Maiestie and to offer it vnto hym with all kynde of deuotifullnesse that she cā deuize to serue hir, to moue and incline his Maiestie to cōdescend to their requestes afore shewed: tellyng thē that there was no cause for them to hope otherwise, than for all thynges meete and agreable to his nature & accustomed goodnesse for the fur-

No. 3.

D. i.

the



theraunce whereof, hir highnesse by the  
 ayde & aduice of the Rulers of the Pro-  
 uinces, the Knightes of the Ordre, and  
 the Lordes of the Counsell, had taken  
 paynes to deuize and penne a modera-  
 tion of the sayd Iniunctions in the case of  
 Religion, before the commyng of their  
 informatiōs, to be presented to his ma-  
 iestie. which moderation hir highnesse  
 hoped should be such, as should be able  
 to content euery man with reason. And  
 for asmuch as hir authoritie (as the  
 playntifs theselues might well vnder-  
 stand and perceiue) stretched not so farre  
 as to surceasse the Inquisitiō and Edictes  
 as they required: and againe it was not  
 meete to leaue the countrey lawlesse in  
 the behalfe of Religio: hir highnesse ho-  
 ped that the playntifes would hold the-  
 selues contented with hir sendyng to the  
 kynges Maiestie: promising to take  
 such order in the meane while till his  
 answer were returned, that as wel the  
 Inquisitors themselves where any were  
 alredy, as also their officers should in  
 that respect proceede discretly and mo-  
 destly in their Commissions, so as men  
 should haue no cause to cōplaine of the.  
 And hir highnes trusted that the plain-  
 tifs also would behaue themselves in  
 such sort, as they should haue no neede

to deale otherwize: for she hoped to be-  
 haue hir selfe so well and deuotifullly to-  
 wardes y<sup>e</sup> kings Maiestie, as he should  
 be contented to discharge all others of  
 the Inquisition where it was, as may be  
 perceiued by his exempting of Brabād  
 frō it at the sute of the cheef Cities ther-  
 of. And hir highnesse intēded to preferre  
 all good meanes to hys Maiestie so  
 much the more freely, to the end and ef-  
 fect aforesayd: bycause she did surely be-  
 leue<sup>l</sup>, that the playntifes had no deter-  
 minate purpoze or intent, to alter any  
 thyng of the auncient Religion, which  
 had bin obserued in those Countreys,  
 but rather mynded to keepe and mayn-  
 taine it to the vttermost of their power.  
 Done by hir hyghnesse at Brusselles the  
 xvi. of Aprill. 1565. before Easter, vnder  
 signed. Margaret.

¶ The Letters of assurance giuen  
 to the Confederates.

No. 4.

**M**argaret by the grace of God  
 Duches of Batina and Plea-  
 sance, Regēt and Gouernesse  
 heere in theis Countreys for  
 my Lord the king to all such as shall see  
 theis presentes, greetynge. whereas a  
 great number of the Gentlemen of this  
 D. y. Coun-

Countrey together, did put by a certein  
 Supplication vnto vs in the moneth  
 of Aprill last past, the effect wherof was  
 that it might please the kynges Maie-  
 stie to abrogate and abolish the Inqui-  
 sition and Edictes, as well old as new,  
 (which they sayd were ouerrigorous &  
 therfore could not be put in execution)  
 and in sted of the to make others by the  
 generall aduise and consent of the states  
 of the sayd Countrey, beseechyng vs to  
 send the same Supplication to his Ma-  
 iesty, that he might prouide for it: wher-  
 upon we hild many great consultatiōs  
 with the gouernours of the Countreys,  
 the Knightes of the Order, the Cōsill  
 of estate, & his Maiesties priny Coun-  
 sell: after we had preferred y<sup>e</sup> whole vn-  
 to him, together with our aduice therein.  
 For asmuch as we sawe that the sayd  
 Gentlemē might perchaunce haue some  
 scruple or dout, that y<sup>e</sup> kyng would take  
 in ill part their sayd Supplication to-  
 gither with the confederacie which they  
 had made therupon amōg themselves,  
 & all that had inlewed therupon: which  
 misdoutyng might cause some greater  
 mischeef in those countreys: we thought  
 it good by the aduice aforesayd, and vpon  
 deliberation as is mencioned afoze,  
 to sew to the kynges Maiestie, that it  
 might



might please him likewise to giue them letters of assuraunce, that they should not be charged with any thyng hereafter, that had bin do by the occasiō thereof. wherupon his Maiestie hath certified vs of his good pleazurc and meeyng, accordyng wherto we tenderyng the benefite, rest, and tranquillitie of the sayd Countreys, and to mainteine the sayd Gentlemen in such wise as they may the more willyngly yeld their obedience and seruise to his Maiesty, accordingly as they be bound as well by nature as by othe, and as they themselves haue alwayes offred: we (I say) at their request and inforuation, by the power & authoritie which we haue vnder his Maiestie, as Regent & Gouvernesse generall of theis his Countreys, and by the aduice of the foresayd Gouverners, Knights of the Order, and Lordes of the Counsell of state beyng with vs, haue for their sayd assurance giue them a Charter signed with our hand in manner and forme followyng.



Er highnesse. &c.  
 we doo you to vnderstande,  
 that all things afoze mentioned considered, and by the kings maiesties consent and good will,

and by the power and commaundement  
 whiche we haue from hym, we in the  
 name and by the power aforesayd haue  
 promised, and by these presents do pro=  
 mis, that nother his Maiestie nor we,  
 wyll blame or charge the said Gentle=  
 men for the foresayde Supplication or  
 the confederacie made therupon, or for  
 any thing that hath insued of them vn=  
 to this present, so their othe and sayth=  
 fulnesse whiche they haue giuen and  
 plighted vnto vs, as well for them sel=  
 ues as for the confederates, be confor=  
 mable to the poyntes and articles a=  
 boue specified, and wherunto they haue  
 bound them selues. Therefore on the  
 kings maiesties behalfe, we wyll and  
 commaund all Gouernours, Knights of  
 the Order, Lords of the Counsell of E=  
 state, the Chiefe, the President, and the  
 Lordes of the priuie Counsell, and all o=  
 ther his maiesties Iustices and Offi=  
 cers, to whom this case pertyneth, to  
 mainteine this present assurance, and to  
 cause it to be mainteyned, inuiolably &  
 continually, causing, suffering, and per=  
 mitting the said Suppliants to vse and  
 enioy it fully, quietly, and perpetually,  
 without causing, procuring, or dooing,  
 and without suffering to be caused, pro=  
 cured, or done, presently, or in tyme to  
 come,

come, directly or indirectly, any trouble or impeachment to the contrary, and also without attempting any thyng against the said Suppliants, in any manner of wise, for any cause aboue specified. For so is it the kings maiesties pleasure and ours. In witnesse whereof we haue signed these presents with our name, and set thereto our seale. Giuen in the Citie of Brusselles the. xxv. day of August. 1566. Signed vpon the folding on the right side of it thus: Margaret. And on the left side of the same folding, was written thus: By the expresse appoyntment of her highnesse. And vndersigned: Of Ouerloeppe. These letters were sealed with her highnesse owne Seale, in red ware, vpon a double Labell.

¶ The copie of a letter written by the kyng with his owne hand, vnto the Prince of Orendge, translated out of Spanish into French.

**W**ith great good wyll haue I receiued your letters, one the xxvj. of May, and afterward an other the. xiiij. of June. You might haue vnderstoode by that which I wrote to my syster, how small

D. iij.                      cause



cause you haue to thinke the thinge that  
 you wrot to me in your letter of May,  
 or rather that you ought to thinke the  
 cleane contrary. And surely you should  
 be much ouerseene, if you should thinke  
 that I trusted you not in all thinges, or  
 that if any body had gon about to make  
 me conceiue amisse of your ductifulnes  
 towards me, I would haue bin so light  
 of credit, as to beleue it, hauyng had so  
 great experience of your loyaltie and  
 good seruice. Therefore you may for-  
 beare your mistrust in that behalfe, and  
 referre your selfe to the letters whiche  
 you haue witten heretofore in that  
 matter, and to your owne doyngs, and  
 not to the things that may haue bin put  
 into your head, by some that perchance  
 are enemies both to my seruice, and to  
 your welfare. As touching the leaue  
 that you sue for, to geue vp your Offi-  
 ces: I am sorie that your priuate affay-  
 res are in suche state as you speake of:  
 howbeit seeing that the state of those  
 Countreys is so tickle as it is, I can  
 not forbear to tel you, that it is no rea-  
 son that such personages as you be, in  
 whom I trust, and vpon whom I rest,  
 should nowe abandon them, specially  
 sith I am so farre of from them: but ra-  
 ther it were more reason that suche as  
 are

are at home in their houses , shoulde  
 come running out at such a time of nede  
 and put to their helping hande as they  
 be bound to doo, and as you haue done  
 at this present in goyng to Andwerpe,  
 whereof I like very well, assuring my  
 selfe that you wyll doo there what soe-  
 uer is most expedient for my seruise, and  
 for the peace and tranquillitie both of the  
 Citie and of the Countrey , and also for  
 the redresse of such disorders as are ther,  
 according to the truste that I haue in  
 you : and so to doo I geue you expresse  
 charge and comission , knowing that  
 you wyll not shewe your selfe other-  
 wise towards me , than you haue bin  
 of all your lyfe long . And to the ende  
 you may see howe freely I deale with  
 you, I can not spare to tell you howe it  
 is much spoken of here , that your bro-  
 ther is a medler in the thinges that are  
 done there , as you be . For as muche  
 therfore as I can not but greatly mis-  
 like of it , I charge you to looke to the  
 redresse thereof, that he proccede no fur-  
 ther , and that you doo it out of hande.  
 And if you thinke it conuenient , to put  
 hym from you for certayne dayes , doo  
 so. From the wood of Segouia, the first  
 of August. 1566. vndersigned, Philip.  
 Andorsed : To the prince of Orendge.  
 And

And sealed with the kinges owne seale.

No. 6.

¶ A Letter of the kynges Ambaf-  
sadour in France, to the Regent.



Madame, although I wrote to  
you at large a fiftene dayes  
ago, and also by the Post that  
came out of Spayne, as he  
passed this way a six & twety  
dayes since: yet notwithstanding for  
as much as yesterday I receyued ad-  
uertisementes from out of Spayne, I  
purposed to giue your highnes intelli-  
gence of them incontinently, and to send  
you the copies of the two letters that  
were writtē vnto me, wherby you may  
see many suche poyntes, as I am sure  
you wyll very well like of, and also vn-  
derstand the good order which the kin-  
ges Maiestie hath taken, and the great  
preparation that he maketh dayly, as  
well to withstād the Turkes power, if  
it should aduenture to arriue vpon those  
Coastes, & to profer any attēpt, as also  
to bring all his subiectes to the obedi-  
ence of God and of hym selfe. Also your  
highnes shal vnderstād, how well your  
manner of dealyng is liked of, whiche  
you haue vsed since the styre that hath  
happened in the cōtrey where you be:  
and



and that the last poynt concernyng intelligences and strong places, is found very good, and to very great purpoze aboue all the rest. In so much that now by that meanes the kyngs maiestie maketh full account to bring his matters about with small payne and resistance, contrary to the doubt which he had of it at the begynnyng: specially for as much as the straungers meddle not o-  
 ner farre, and also by reason of the continuall wisedome and cunnyng handling of thynges, wherewith your highnesse hath begonne to order the whole matter. For I am well able to assure you, Madaine, that his Maiestie attributeth the preservation of his low countries vnto you, next after God: who of his grace wyll bring to passe, that this inconuenience whiche is befallen, shall turne so greatly to his benefit and comoditie, as he shall see them brought wholly vnder his obedience, and to such state, gouernment, and rule, as his predecessors could neuer attayne vnto, and which he hym selfe had so long desired & labored for, together with this occasion which no good seruant of his wyll counsell hym to looze, wherby he is in forwardnesse to subdue the one sort, and to ryd his handes of the other, as he

he hym selfe shall find best, and perceiue  
 to be most expedient for the incounte-  
 ryng of thyngs hereafter, to the benefit  
 of his affayres in the saide Countreys.  
 And for as much Madame as the point  
 which to my seeming is of greatest im-  
 portance and of most necessitie as now  
 in this case, is to make those vizored  
 seruaunts (whom you note of) more &  
 more carelesse, and out of mistrust: your  
 highnesse (by your fauour) muste not  
 thinke amisse of me for that I haue of-  
 ten warned you, and now againe doo  
 put you in mind, to dally with them for  
 the present tyme, and to feed them so far  
 forth, as to hold talke with them oft-  
 tymes your selfe, or to cause them to be  
 talkt with by persons appoynted for the  
 nonce, which must feed the with y great  
 opinion and good liking that the kings  
 maiestie hath of their doyngs, and with  
 the good wyll which he beareth them,  
 yea euen so farre forth as to assure them  
 that he beleueth, & sayth, that they haue  
 done hym so notable seruys, as he thin-  
 keth him selfe beholden to them for that  
 his low Countreys are styll vnder his  
 obedience, & that but for their presence  
 and wisdoine they had eyther bin a pray  
 to straungers, or els bin bathed in the  
 blud of their own people. For although  
 Ma-

madame, such speeches be but counterfayt  
 & fayned in very deede, yet doo the tyme  
 and occasion require, that such artificial  
 talke should be vsed for the seruice of his  
 maiestie. And I beleue your highnesse  
 shall see by experience, that they wyll  
 serue to good purpoze for the holdyng  
 of them in, or at leastwise for to hold the  
 fast, as we haue perceyued alreadye,  
 not onely in them, but also in the two  
 that are gone to his maiestie, who haue  
 bin so cunningly and skilfully handled,  
 and haue had so good countenance and  
 intertaynement giuen them, that they  
 sweare by nothyng els but by the faith  
 that they owe to their maister.

And on the otherside, there is so good  
 order taken, and such fetches practized  
 in their houses at home, that accordyng  
 to the meanes that your highnesse coun-  
 seleth, they can nother doe nor say any  
 thyng, wherof good intelligence is not  
 giuen backe agayne. Besides this, it is  
 determined to holde them a good while  
 at the Court, and not to suffer them to  
 depart thence, no more than they haue  
 suffered the Lord of Ihermonnt, who  
 thought he should haue returned out of  
 hand. But I must tell you Madame,  
 that the greatest inconuenience whiche  
 I know to be in this case at this presēt,  
 is



This Duke  
is the Duke  
of Alua: and  
the Prince  
is the prince  
Deboly  
Ruygomes.

is that they which are of greatest power and credit about the kyng, (that is to witte the Duke and the Prince) agree well vpon the punishment, but not vpon the meane how to punish them. For the one vseth the kinges goyng thither as much as he can, & the other on the contrary part letteth & hindereth it, & proposeth other new meanes. As for me, I haue alwayes bin of opinio, y in such cases the kynges presence would stand in great stead: & that about all thynges, diligence and speedy dispatch is needefull, and would greatly aduantage the matter, and that in suddain diseases it behoueth to vse speedy, yea & euē violēt remedies: which is the opinion, wherein the kynges Maiestie as I am informed (onely by one litle soule) doth now dwell fully settled and resolved: in so much that the same day that he arriued last at Madrid after his sicknesse, hee sware in the presence of the sayd Lords, how he knew well that in the thynges which he had to do in his low Countreys, his going should be, not onely to his own reputation, but also to the seruice of God: and therefore that it touched him so neere, as he would rather hazard all the rest of his dominions, than fayle to punish such Rebelliō to the example  
and

and open sight of all Christedome. And  
 for the same cause his Maiestie determin-  
 ed resolutely in the same place, to de-  
 part out of Spayne as soone as he pos-  
 sibly might, and to cary with him the  
 Prince his sonne, & the Queene, (who  
 notwithstanding (as it was thought)  
 might haue passed thorough Fraunce,)  
 leauyng his sister the Regēt of the coun-  
 trey and his two nephewes the Empe-  
 rours sonnes with hir, howbeit that the  
 Emperour was mynded afterward to  
 take home the elder of thē: and that the  
 Duke should go his way certaine dayes  
 afore to refresh the garrisons of Italy,  
 and to fetch thence the best and an-  
 cientest Capteines and souldiers, & in  
 their places to put those whō he should  
 carry with him out of Spaine: and that  
 anon after, his Maiestie shal go into It-  
 aly and speake with some of the Prin-  
 ces and potētates of that countrey, and  
 talke mouth to mouth with the Pope,  
 and afterward with the Emperour (if  
 it may be) to link in together with them  
 in counsell and force: and he hath alre-  
 dy desired two regimentes of souldiers  
 at the Emperours hands. which there  
 is no doubt but he shal obtaine, notwith-  
 standing that he cannot as yet giue him  
 resolute answer, by reason of the warre  
 that

Abouchera.

that he hath with y<sup>e</sup> Turke. This done,  
 as soone as he hath set cōuenient order  
 in his affaires, his maiestie determineth  
 to tary in the Frenche Countie, and fro  
 thence to come down into the low coun-  
 treys with such force as shalbe needful,  
 according to the behaueour of his sub-  
 iectes there, & accordyng to the counte-  
 nance that they shall shew, of humbling  
 them selues, or of makyng resistance,  
 that he may make them to obey hym,  
 and God first of all. Furthermoze ma-  
 dame, me thinkes I shoulde not for-  
 get to tel you, howe the Countie Pa-  
 latine, and the Lantgraue of Hesse, and  
 the other Lutheran Princes haue sent  
 two ambassadours hyther, which beare  
 the name of Doctors, wherof the one is  
 called Iunius, and the other Dauid. They  
 came hyther a moneth or fyne weekes  
 ago, vnder colour to demaund certaine  
 money, which the sayd Princes had lent  
 the Hugonots, duryng the troubles of  
 the Realme, and therewithall to com-  
 mend the professors of their godly Re-  
 ligion to the French kyng: but in very  
 deede (as farre as I can learne) to make  
 practises with the sayd Hugonots, and  
 to giue new occasions of attemptes a-  
 gainst the Catholik state of the kynges  
 maiesties Countrey. And for as muche  
 as



as I perceyued by good ground, and in  
 very truth, that some of the kyngs and  
 Queenes Counsell, yea euen of the grea-  
 test and oldest sort, (how Catholicke so  
 euer they pretended to be) were myn-  
 ded to serue their owne turnes by oc-  
 casion of this Ambassade, by entrypting in  
 to league with those Princes, and so to  
 strengthen themselves in their confede-  
 racie and alyance, I was in some un-  
 quietnesse for certaine dayes, how to  
 fynde meanes to breake that broode.  
 But the Cardinall came to the Towne  
 in very good season, who in very deede  
 doth a whole worlde of good turnes  
 heer, and would do many mo if he were  
 able. I visited him & had long discourse  
 with him about the weightynes of this  
 case, and the greates inconueniences  
 that it drew with it to the ruine of the  
 Catholickes of this Realme: and I ag-  
 grauated it in such wise vnto him, as I  
 made it seeme to tend, not onely to the  
 harme of the kyng my maister, but also  
 to the harme of his owne Prince. By  
 meanes wherof I gaue him a colour to  
 attach the said Iunius as a subiect borne  
 in the low countrey, so as he wēt hence  
 the next morning to a house of the  
 Queenes called Monceaux, where the  
 Court lay. And when he came there, he

sped him so well , that immediately the  
 kyng & the Queene dispatched a writ to  
 y<sup>e</sup> Marshal of their house, to put the said  
 Lutherā Ambassadors in prison who  
 were as then in the towne, and to seaze  
 their letters, remēbrances, & Instruc-  
 tions . which thyng had bin put in exe-  
 cution , but that durynge the contention  
 that happened while the Marshal was  
 about to haue led them to prison , a cer-  
 teine Counseler beyng thē in the town,  
 aduized him to surceasse the execution of  
 the writ , vntill there came a new com-  
 maundement . Neuerthelesse , I know  
 that although there was meanes made  
 afterward to salue that soze : yet y<sup>e</sup> Am-  
 bassadours thought themselves to haue  
 receiued such a despight , & their Mai-  
 sters such an iniurie : as I am sure that  
 thereby the practise that was a brew-  
 yng is so broken of, as it cannot be knit  
 togither agayne . Specially for as much  
 as they perceiued themselves to be mis-  
 used new agayne , in that in sted of a-  
 mendes for the sayd wrong, they were  
 very ill intreated at the Court , when  
 they came to haue audiēce : & afterward  
 mocked for their labour , by meanes  
 wherof they thought that the kyng and  
 the Queene and their Cōsill had small  
 likyng of them: a thyng that cannot but  
 turne

turne to the great furtheraunce of the  
 kynges Maiesties affaires, and bereue  
 them more and more of their frendes and  
 alyances. As for the Lady that you wor  
 of, I take hir to be one of the deepest  
 dissemblers in the world: & the more I  
 haue to deale with hir, the more am I  
 confirmed in y<sup>e</sup> opiniō which I haue oftē  
 aduertized your highnesse of: namely,  
 that there is no trust, no assurednes, no  
 frendshipp, no stedfastnesse in hir, I haue  
 talked with hir many times of the mat  
 ter that you know of, which concerneth  
 the kynges Maiestie, and I haue told  
 hir meetly playnly inough how greatly  
 she is bounde thereto, for the releef that  
 she hath receiued by it in hir great nede,  
 and I do dayly still vse all the meanes  
 that I can deuize, to make hir to disco  
 uer matters accordyng to his maiesties  
 meenyng and yours. But I can get no  
 thng at hir had but wordes: and I am  
 as nere my purpose as I was at the  
 first day neuerthelesse I am fully deter  
 mined to vige hir in such wise at my  
 next comyng to haue audience, as she  
 shalbe driuen to lay hir selfe open. She  
 sendes me oft the litle blacke mā that I  
 haue wrytten of so oftentymes to your  
 hyghnesse, who hath bin diuers tymes  
 in Spayne since the Lorde of S. Sup  
 plice  
 J. H.



plice was Ambassadour there. But  
 howsoever the sayd Lady thinke that by  
 his meanes she makes me beleue what  
 she listeth, and wyngeth out many se-  
 cretes from me. I will nother let hir  
 know what I intend, nor draw them  
 fro their opinion, but contrariwise pre-  
 tend to speake freely to the. And by this  
 meanes I perceiue I giue them now &  
 then good glikes & to very good effect,  
 and that I sucke more out of them than  
 they do out of me. At leastwise I wil by  
 Gods helpe take such order henceforth,  
 as they shall neuer make their bragges  
 that they haue couzined a Spanyard. I  
 receiued this aduertizement by a poste  
 that went from Madrid with the Lord  
 of S. Supplite, whom the sayd Lady  
 did send now alate to the kynges Ma-  
 iestie, and left him at Bayone the first of  
 this Moneth to retorne into Fraunce.  
 One sent me word that he had had such  
 talke with hir as was behoful, & such as  
 I gaue instructiōs of, which I am sure  
 will do good: neuerthelesse he learned  
 not so much newes as he looked for,  
 and as their intent was that sent hym.  
 The Duke had told him a scawe dayes  
 afore, that he intēded to write to me: but  
 bycause the poste sawe him maruelous  
 sad for his sonnes mariage, at his com-  
 myng

myng away he durst not speake to hym  
of it. The death of Sultan Solymán is  
not yet knowen in Spayne. But as  
soone as rydinges commes thither of it,  
I am sure I shall haue aduertizement  
from thence, whereby I shall perceiue,  
whither that vppon this newes there  
follow any alteration of purpose in the  
poyntes abovesayd: wherof I will not  
fayle to certifie your highnesse out of  
hand, when, &c.

The Princes answere to the At-  
tourneyes Summons or Citation

**M**aster Attourney, I haue recei-  
ued a Copie of the Summons  
that you haue caused to be exe-  
cuted and published agaynst me  
by open Proclamation and Edict. And  
forasmuch as I finde my selfe greatly  
grieved with the accusations therein co-  
teined, as a nobleman of my calling  
ought to do: I couet nothyng so much  
(which thyng I hope also to make ap-  
parant) as to aunswere dewly and tru-  
ly therunto as becommeth me. For it is  
no part of my meaning, to leaue any su-  
spicion in the hartes of the ignorant,  
that I haue not deakt honorably and  
acordyngly as I am bounde to the  
king, or that I haue leudly and vnderw-  
ofully behaued my selfe in the Com-

No. 7.

missions, roomes, and offices, which he hath pleased his Maiestie to bestow vpon me hertofore, or otherwise. But I hope to shew by this discourse & by the laying together of my defences, that the good, long continued, & faythfull seruices, charges, and damages, which I haue susteyned in them by reason of the, doo farre surmount my dneties and rewardes. And therefore I haue good cause and reason to desire to enter into this reckenyng, no lesse than he that hopeth and looketh for an amendement of his state, by the closing vp and determining of his account. But for as much as the thing that we most desire & chiefly intend, is comonly last in execution, if we proccede dnelly and orderly as we should do: in so much that the Physician or Surgeon goes not about to cure the disease, or to heale the wounde, how greuous or dangerous soeuer it be, tyll he haue first purged the humors, and searched the bottome thereof: neyther dooth the Mason builde a house, without laying of a sure foundation before: I am inforced and compelled by the maner of your Summons, to defer the alledging and setting downe of my defence, vntyll your accusations be layd forth before a competent and fit Iudge,



in place vn suspected , where a man may hope that the things which shalbe spoken , shalbe regarded as they ought to be , and that the Judge wyl proccede indifferently to acquitment or condemnation , according as the case shall require and deserue . In the meane while I must comfort my self with the examples ( wherof storyes are full ) of suche as in recompence of their mainteynyng and increasynge of the honour , Countreys , and dominions of their Princes , kings and soueraigne Lords , with the hazard of their owne lyues , and the expence of their goodes , haue not only bin shamefully cited and cryed out vpon , but also receyued bodyly punishment , and bin made a publike example , by being murthered , executed , banished , or drinen away , whereas in the meane while , the rewardes and recompences of their seruices haue bin giuen before their faces to them that least deserued them . which dealing is so much the lesse straunge in these dayes , for as much as the innocentest person that is , maye not onely be brought in suspition , but also in hatred , & made abhorred of the world , onely by causing him to be taken and reputed for an heretike by some suborned person . For be he once brought to that poynt .

he shall not onely fynd hym selfe defeated of all his good doynges, seruices, and desertes: but also beyng bereft and deprived of all good likyng, he shall become suspected and accusable of Rebellion, Commotion, Seditiō, and generally of all kindes of crimes and faults that can be comprized vnder the name of treason.

And for as muche as it is an odious thing, as y<sup>e</sup> worlde goes now adayes, to accuse mē of pretēsed heresie, to the intēt they may punish it without incurrēg the indignation and turnyng away of mens hartes, which they woulde faine holde in bondage: it standeth them in hand to couer it with the cloke of treason, wherof who soeuer is accused, shall in vaine goe about to purge and cleare hym selfe, before one to whom he perceyuet hym selfe to be suspected of heresie. For in as much as treason is not the fi-  
nall cause, for which he is pursued, arrested, apprehended, and accused: though he make his innocencie appeare by neuer so due proofo: yet can he not hope for any acquitment or deliuerance, but must be condemned vnder title and pretence of treason: or els (be his innocencie too too apparant) he must looke for a perpetuall and miserable deteynyng  
in

in lawe by delay of proceeding: which  
 thing ought to excuse me sufficiently for  
 not appearing before the Duke of  
 Bouenno; and Capteyne general of the  
 low countreys: Besides that your writ  
 which you have sued out, is for many  
 reasons utterly without right, and such  
 as I am not bounde to obey. For be-  
 sides that the officer of Armes hath not  
 given any intelligence, warning, or  
 clyng of his doing unto me, who hath  
 aduertizement given to my Lady the  
 Duchesse of Parmaschen Regent, by  
 withdrawe my selfe home into this my  
 Countie of Nassau, for certaine dygent  
 affayres of myne owne, (according as  
 so as I certified his Maiestie long ago  
 that I was mynded to doe) and not of  
 purpose to flee awaye, as to hide my  
 head, as your writ conteyneth, the ter-  
 mes, respites, and distances were so  
 short, as it was impossible for me to be  
 aduertized of the proclayming of them  
 in Brusselles, & to make my apparance  
 there within the compasse of them, and  
 much lesse in any places further off, wher  
 the Duke of Alva might remoue in  
 the meane while. For seeing that every  
 terme and day of respit had his effect: it  
 is wel knownen that respect ought to be  
 had to ech of them severally, and not to  
 them



them all three ioyntly and continually  
 together. And therefore to set termes  
 but of fifteene dayes a peece, for suche a  
 distance as is betwene this and Brus-  
 sels: is nothing els but to set out Re-  
 spects, Summons, and Citations that  
 are impossible to be obeyed. Agayne,  
 by the vndlyng hope of your saide res-  
 pites, and by your taking of three for  
 one: I finde that notwithstanding the  
 great importance of the case, & the state  
 and calling of my perso, your meanyng  
 is to proceede agaynst me by one onely  
 Summons, contrary to all order of ius-  
 tice: specially seeing that in like cases,  
 the proceeding is speedy ynough accor-  
 dyng to right, when there is no more  
 done, but the keeping of the accustomed  
 order: which is, that there should be no  
 proceeding to the peremptory day, be-  
 fore there haue bin three seuerall Sum-  
 mons sump out, with sixe dayes distance  
 at the least betwene Summons and  
 Summons, and that the Judge beyng  
 duly informed of the places & hauntes  
 where the partie absent that is to be  
 summoned abyeth, do appoint the res-  
 pites accorpyng to the farrenes of y<sup>e</sup> di-  
 stance that he hath to come. which thing  
 sith your Summons dooth not, it follo-  
 weth of necessitie, that it is of no value,  
 no

nor any Summons at all. Of like ef-  
 fect are all your Iudiciall actes vnde-  
 ly and vncompetently done, so much the  
 more, because your pretended Citation  
 and Summons can take no place or ef-  
 fect, in as much as they be done against  
 such a one as dwelleth out of the kynges  
 territorie and iurisdiction, within the  
 boundes of the Empire, and is a mem-  
 ber and state of the same: (the priuiledge  
 and authoritie wherof is suche,) that if  
 any withdrawe them selves out of it,  
 they may of right be required to be sent  
 backe agayne, but it is not lawfull to cal  
 them out of the Empire by any Cita-  
 tion, or by any pretended Summons, In-  
 iunction, or Proclamatiō. which thing  
 hath bin of suche estimation in tymes  
 past, that chiefly by reason thereof, the  
 sentence that was geuen by the Empe-  
 rour Henry, against Robert kyng of  
 Sicilie was reuerfed and disannulled,  
 the rather because the said kyng Robert  
 stood in doubt of the Emperour being  
 accompanied with a puissant army, as  
 the Duke of Alua is at this present with  
 an army of Spaniardes, bearing suche  
 good wyll to me as all the world know-  
 meth. And therefore it ought to suffice  
 for the bewraying of the insufficiencie  
 of your sayd Citation and Summons,  
 specially

specially seying that the Duke is notoria-  
 ously known to be a more uncompe-  
 tent Judge in respecte of me, than the  
 saide Emperour was in respect of the  
 kyng of Sicilie: Considering that such  
 as are knightes of the Order, can not  
 by the Lawes, Ordinances, and Con-  
 stitutions therof, be otherwise summo-  
 ned than before the chiefe of the same  
 Order, and their brethren, no not cured  
 for the worst, heynousest, and shames-  
 fullest matters that they can comynyt.  
 Nay, there can not any man proceede to  
 the apprehending, attaching, and detey-  
 nyng of those knightes, vntlesse it be de-  
 creed by the aduice of sixe of their bre-  
 thren so the least: and in such case they  
 must be put by and by in the custody of  
 their owne Colledge, and of the frendly  
 company of their owne Order, and not  
 be rigorously dealt withall, as our Co-  
 sins and brethren of the same Order al-  
 ready apprehended, are vsed: whiche  
 thing doth also confirme the insufficien-  
 cy of the writ that you haue sued out,  
 and specially of the rigorous clause of  
 bodyly attachment put therein. For  
 seeing that man is naturally giuen to  
 miserie hym selfe: it is not likely that  
 we wyll be made to appeare among  
 Archmen, & before such Judges, as we  
 mis-



mistrust, and specially to yeeleue our fel-  
 lies into such prisons as are farre more  
 streyt and rigorous, than we of duetie  
 are bound vnto, or than of right belon-  
 geth vnto vs. For of right the prison  
 should serue but onely to keepe the pri-  
 zoner forthcommynge, and not to barre  
 hym from all company, communication,  
 counsel, & aduice: without the which it  
 is impossible that any case of importance  
 shoulde be well and duely pleaded and  
 defended: the whiche neuerthelesse I  
 vnderstand in very dede to haue bin vs-  
 fed & to be vsed still to wardes our said  
 Cosins and brethren of the Order, whō  
 we see also to haue bin fetched out of  
 the Countie of Brabant, notwithstanding  
 the expresse Couenants, Lawes,  
 and Conditions, wherby the same coun-  
 trey is bounde to the obedience of the  
 kyngs maiestie. And I see that the like  
 is come to passe in the person of myne  
 own sonne the Countie of Bure, with-  
 out any regarde had of his young age,  
 and apparant innocencie: whiche ser-  
 ueth me for a warnyng, that the Duke  
 of Alua meaneth not to stand to any co-  
 uenauntes, bondes, lawes, rightes, or  
 customes, and therfore that it should be  
 impossible for me to obteyne any dis-  
 charge at his hande, though I made  
 myne

myne innocencie to appere neuer so  
 sufficiently by like allegations:  
 wherefore, & forasmuch as both by right  
 of law, & by force of couenaunt, brought  
 in a ioyfull entrance, conceinyng the  
 lawes whereby the Duchy of Brabant  
 stody obedience, we whiche haue al-  
 wayes had our dwelling place in the  
 same Duchy, haue good ground to with-  
 hold and suspend all obediēce which we  
 owe to the kyng, vntill his Maiesty be-  
 yng better informed, haue amended the  
 thyngs that haue bin done and attempt-  
 ed contrary to the said ioyfull entrance  
 & in prejudice therof: I thought it good  
 to aduertize you and to tell you playn-  
 ly by theis presētes, that in respect of the  
 reasons before alledged, we take your  
 sayd Summons and Citation for none  
 and of no valew. Expressly protestyng  
 the like, of all that shalbe done and de-  
 creed by vertue and consequence of the  
 same, specially bycause of the apparaunt  
 insufficiencie of the Duke of Alua, to  
 whom the Commission of this case is  
 directed in respect of his Gouvernershyp  
 and Capteinshyp generall ouer the low  
 Countreys: which protestatiō our wil is  
 to haue to serue for our excuze, & conse-  
 quētly also for our refusall in respect of  
 him, and so farre forth as is nedefull be-  
 sides,

sides, bycause we finde in very deepe &  
 by experience, that we cannot hope to  
 obtaine of him, the right which our case  
 shall deserue, by reason of the causes a-  
 foresaid. And we offer to present our sel-  
 ues before the Emperour, the Electors,  
 the Princes, the States, and other the  
 Lordes of the Emppre, or any other  
 meete and vnsuspected Judges, to haue  
 the examining and deciding of our case,  
 accordyng to the desert of it openly and  
 without partialitie or affection. Prote-  
 styng yit once agayne, y all is nothyng,  
 which is or shalbe done, sayd, ordeyned,  
 iudged, or decreed to our preiudice, by  
 the said Duke of Alua, suspected and re-  
 fused as an incompetent Judge as is  
 sayd afore, or by any that shalbe put in  
 Commission for him and in his steade.  
 And for asmuch as all this serueth to  
 none other end, but to do you to vnder-  
 stand the sayd declarations, offers, and  
 protestations: that by you and others  
 such regarde may be had of them as is  
 meete: I will pray to the Creator to  
 haue you Maister Attourney in his ho-  
 ly keepyng. Written at Dillenboursch  
 the thyrde of Marche. 1568. Under-  
 signed, William of Nassaw. The super-  
 scription of it was, To Maister Attourney  
 Generall.



An answer sent to the Duke of  
Alua by the Prince of Orendge, vpon  
the Citation or Summons.

No.7.

**S**ir, for asmuch as my doyngs  
may be a sufficient testimonie,  
that fro my youth vp I haue  
desired nothyng more, than to  
employ my selfe in the seruice, first of the  
late Emperour of noble memory, and  
afterward of the kyng my Maister: I  
haue hoped that his maiestie (beyng ad-  
uertized from me, (lyke as my Lady of  
Parma then Regent, was also) that I  
was come into this my county of Fals-  
law for certeine very vrgent affaires of  
myne) would in respect of my faythful-  
nes, & good wil, not haue ceased to haue  
shewed me so much fauour, as to com-  
maunde me wherein soeuer I could haue  
done him seruice, which I offered hym  
continewally by my sayd letters of ad-  
uertizement or at leastwise that I should  
haue vnderstode at your hand, that the  
kynges Maistie was mynded to haue  
me to leaue myne owne affaires heere,  
and to retorne immediarly thither, as  
wel as you gaue intelligence of his ma-  
iesties minde to all other Lords, states,  
and Cities. But as I was stil wayting  
with great longyng, for his Maisties  
com-

commaundementes: I was aduertized  
 that proceſſe was gone out agaynſt me,  
 to ſeaze vpon my Lordſhips, Landes,  
 and goodes: and (whiche woords is) by  
 Proclamatiō vnder the name of the At=  
 tourney generall, ful of falſe and vntol=  
 lerable ſlaunders: and afterward by the  
 apprehendynge of my ſonne, whom I  
 had left at Louane that he might be the  
 better able to ſerue the kyng and the co=  
 mon weale heerafter. whereat I won=  
 dered very much, & me thought it was  
 right ſtrange, that they ſhould proceede  
 in ſuch ſort againſt a man of my calling,  
 forgettyng ſo ſoone the great and noble  
 ſeruices, done as well by my predeceſ=  
 ſours and by my ſelfe, and in theiſ laſt  
 trubbles by name. wherfore where as  
 I haue reaſons & allegations well fra=  
 med to Juſtifie my caſe withall, and to  
 cleere & declare myne innocencie, & the  
 wrong that is done me in this behalfe,  
 which I reſerue till fit time & place may  
 ſerue: I thought it inough at this tyme  
 to anſwere the Attourney general with  
 ſpeeche, and to lay open and to ſhewe to  
 him the inſufficiencie of his Summons  
 by other reaſons which I had agaynſt  
 the ſaine, before the expiring of the ouer=  
 haſty terme that is prefixed vnto me, to  
 the ende that men ſhould not thinke I  
 felt my ſelfe guilty in any thing, or that I

meene not to pursue my right, so farre forth as I shal finde it expedient by reason. And thereof Syr, I thought good to aduertize you also, by sendyng you Copie of the letter that I wrote to mai<sup>or</sup>ster Attouney together with this letter, to the intent there may be no more proceeding or dealyng agaynst me or myne through ignorance, further forth than may be iustified heerafter by order of law, whereto I hope I shall one day haue my recours. And to the ende that this may not serue to any other effect, I pray God Syr, to giue vnto you health and whatsoeuer is for your saluation, and vnto me, that my Prince may once truly vnderstand the sinceritie of my dealynges. From Dillenburch, this thyrd of Marche. 1568. The subscription of it was, Your brother of the Order, William of Nassaw. The superscription was, To my Lord the Duke of Aluaze grace.

¶ The Copie of an other Letter written by the foresaid Frauncis of Alua Ambassadour for the king of Spaine in Fraunce, to the Duchesse of Parma. &c. Regent: besides that whiche is inserted heertofore in the page. 106. No. 6.



**M**Adame, the aduertizemēt which your highnes hath giuen me of the affaires where you are, hath confirmed the opinion which I haue alwayes had : namely that this styre was neuer made without the knowledge and supportāce of the greatest, and specially of the thre whiche make so fayre countenance. For as your highnesse hath considered with greates care and discretion: you must also beleue that all the mischiefe spyngeth of them thre. I haue not sayled to aduertize the kings Maiestie of all thynges, and specially of that matter. And I am sure that whereas your highnesse hath informed his Maiestie of them, you shall not neede to handle them as they should be, and accordyng to your owne information: for they may be well assured, that they shalbe the first whom his Maiestie will deale with: not to shewe them fauour, for they be not worthy of it: but to punish and correct them as their rebellion deserueth. Therfore your highnes shall not neede to giue them any euill countenance, or to make any shewe of misliking, for feare of marring the matter: But you must hold them stil in hope that the kynges Maiestie taketh them for his faythfull seruantes: & that will

n He meeneth the Prince of Orendge, the Countie of Egmond, and the Countie of Horn.

A. y,

stand

stand vs in great stead . For, by causing them to beleue so , you shall ouertake them the easlyer. But when the time cometh, you shall talke to them in an other maner of language. And your highnesse must assure your selfe , that if your will be good to make them receiue the payment that they haue deserued : his Ma<sup>tie</sup> will be no lesse willyng to do what soeuer is needefull in that behalfe.

Also Madame , to aduertize you in what assurance we bee of succour in Fraunce , accordyng to the instructions that you gaue me : I must bee fayne to tell your hyghnesse , that we haue promyses inough made vs , but I feare me they will stand vs in no great stead, and in the end all will turne to bare words, bycause they haue not their own willes, nor are able to helpe vs as they promise , by reason that the Hugonotes heerawayes are strong and doo make head . I will not fayle to do what may be done, and to aduertize your highnesse thereof vpon all occasions . But in any wise I beseech you to behaue your selfe very cunnyngly towards the three persons whom I haue named vnto you. And so &c. From Paris the xxix. of August, 1566.

# Letters of the Prince of Orend- gis to the Regent.



Adame, I haue receyued the letters o which it hath pleased your highnesse to write vnto me, together with the Counselles letters, concernyng my gouernment: whereby I vnderstand the kinges maiesties intent, consistyng in thre poynts, which he commaundeth me very expressely to cause to be executed in all places of my gouernement. Nowe although Madame, that myne aduice is not asked in the matter beyng of so greate weight and importance: yet notwithstanding as a faythfull seruauant and subiect to his maiestie, being moued with a zelous desire to satisfie the duetie of my calling and othe, I coulde not forbear to say myne opinion freely and frankly, choozing rather to aduenture the gainyng of displeazure at the present for myne aduertisementes and informations, than to be noted and blamed hereafter as an vnfaithful, negligent, and carelesse Gouvernour, for my wincking and silence, to the defamacion and desolation of the Countrey.

Firste, as touching the puttyng of the Councel in execution, although there wer some mislikyng and grudging at it at the

R. iii.

begin-

o These are the letters with the kinges resolution sent abroad by the Regent, the 18. of Decemb. 1565. No. 2. fo. 77.

The Councel of Trent



beginnyng : yet notwithstanding , in as much as some qualifications haue bin added to it afterward, I beleue there wyll be litle sticking in that behalfe. And as for the reformation of the Clergie , and other Ecclesiastical ordinances : seyng they belong not to my vocation, I referre them to such as haue the charge of them , intendyng to satisfie the kynges maiesties commaundement, as neede shall require.

The Inquisition.

As touchyng the second poynt , which conteyneth that the Gouverners, Counsellors, and other Officers should fauour the Inquisitours to the vttermost of their power, and maynteyne them in the authoritie that belongeth to them by the lawe of God and man, & which they haue inioyed vnto this day.

It may please your highnesse to remember, that the complaintes, strifes, and quarrels that haue byn moued through the whole Countrey here for the stablisyng of Bishops, haue risen vppon nothyng els, but for feare least some forme of Inquisition shoulde be brought in vnder that pretence . So odious and yrksome is, not onely the execution , but also the very name of it.

Besides this, it may please your highnesse to vnderstand , ( for it is cleare and manifestly knowen to the most part of the kings  
maie-

maiesties subiectes, and specially to al men of any good countenance & calling here-awayes) that both the Emperours maiesty and also Queene Mary, haue oftentimes assured the inhabitantes, as well by word as by writyng, that the Inquisitiō should not be brought into the lowe Countreys: but that they should be mainteyned and ruled as they had bin of all ancient tyme before. Yea and euen the kings maiestie that now is, to the intent to put that imaginatiō out of the peoples heades, hath oft tymes made the like assurance hym selfe.

Mary  
Queene of  
Hungary.

And vndoubtedly Madame, the sayd assurances and promises haue kept his maiesties subiectes and other dwellers here from fallyng into any alteration, and caused many men of good wealth and countenance to forbear the alienating of their goodes, and the seekyng of any other places where they might liue without feare of any Inquisition. And so consequently they haue bin a meane to mainteine the vnion, tranquillitie, trade of Marchandise, and supply of the most part of the treasures for the maintenance of the warres: whereas els the Countrey being made bare both of inhabitantes, men, and money, had bin abandoned as a pray to whosoever had list to lay hold of it.

As touching the third poynt, whereby

B. iiii.

his

The Iniun-  
ctions, Pro-  
clamations,  
Decrees, or  
Edictes.

his maiesty wylleth and commaundeth expressly, that the Iniunctions or Edictes made as well by the Emperour, as by hym selfe, shoulde in all poyntes and articles be kept, folowed, and executed, with al rigor, and without any qualification or winkyng at them.

Madame, (to my seemyng) that likewise is a very hard poynt, because the Iniunctions are many and dyuers, and haue byn limited, qualified, and restrayned nowe and then heretofore, and not pursued with rigor: in so muche that they were not so sharpe euen in the tyme of the vniuersall misery, as they be now, nother were our people so much inclyned to innouation, as they be now by the instigation and practizes of our neighbors.

Wherfore, to vse more extremity presently, and all at one instant to renue the Inquisition more vehemently, and to proceede on to execution wyth all seueritie: surely Madame, I can not see howe the kynges maiestie shall wyn aught els by it, than to put hym selfe to payne, and the Countrey to trouble, with the losse of his good subiectes hartes, by makyng euey man mistrust, that his maiesty intendeth to goe an other way to woorke than he hath alwayes assured them of and pretended, and to hazarde the puttyng of all thynges  
into



into hys neyghbors handes, as wel by vn-peoplyng of the Countrey by such as wyll forsake it, as by reason of the small truste that can be repozed in them that shall remayne, & al without any profit or redresse of Religion.

To auoide tediousnesse, I omit the alledgyng of many inconueniences in this behalfe, because I know that both his maiestie and your highnesse haue bin aduertized of them at large already. Moreouer, (I speake it vnder correction) me thynkes the tyme is very vnfit to styrre the braynes and humors of the people, whiche is too muche disquieted and troubled alreadye with the present scarfitie and dearth of corne. It were muche better (in myne opinion) to deferre and let all alone, vntyll his maiesties commyng, who is sayd to be in preparyng hym selfe hytherwarde. And I woulde to God he were so steaded, as he myght be here with speede, to the intent that by his presence suche order might be taken, as shoulde be expedient for the seruice of God and his maiestie, and for the reste and quietnesse of his Countreys and subiectes here. For in caces of trouble, thynges would be remedied more readily by his presence than otherwyse.

Howbeit, if hys maiesty and your highnesse be styll at one staye, and fully bent to  
haue

haue all the sayde poyntes folowed to the ful : for as muche as I see clearely and before myne eyes, that it cā not be now executed without great hazarde of the ruine of the whole Countrey, ( which it may be that his maiesty would haue regarde of, yf he were here: ) If it be so that your hyghnesse wyll not deferre the Inquisition tyll then, but wyll needes persist in the present executyng thereof : I had leuer that his maiesty should put some other in my place, that can better skyll of the peoples humors, and is better able than I to keepe them in peace and quietnesse : than to incurre the shame that maye lyght vpon me and myne, if any inconuenience should fall vpon the Countrey, vnder my gouernmēt, and duryng my charge.

And his maiesty and your hyghnesse may well assure your selues, that I saye not this because I am loth to folowe his commaundementes, or desirous to lyue otherwyse than as a good Christian : for my former doynges can wel beare witnesse thereof, and I hope his maiesty hath well perceyued by experience, that I haue neuer spared eyther body or goodes to doo hym seruice, wherein my desire is to continue styll all my lyfe long. Besides this, if the affayres of the Countrey should goe otherwyse than well, I woulde (for my dueties sake

lake to his maiesty and my native soyle) I woulde (I say) aduenture not onely al the goodes that I haue in the worlde, but also myne owne person, my wife, and my children, whom euen nature wylleth me to preserue and keepe. Wherefore I beseech you, let it please your highnesse to haue regard of it according to your tryed and accustomed discretion, and to take this mine information in good parte, as proceeding from one that speaketh of earnest affection and good wyll, to doo his maiestie seruise, and to preuent all inconueniences. wherof I take God to witnesse, whom (hauing commended my selfe most humbly to the good grace of your highnesse) I beseeche to giue you long and good lyfe in health. From Brusselles, the. xxiiij. day of Ianuarie. 1565. accordyng to the Computation of Braband. p

¶ The Regentes answere to  
the Princes Letter.

**M***y good cousin, I haue receiued your two Letters of the xvi. e. of this present moneth, by the one of which you excuse your selfe of your not comyng hither as you would haue done. And by the other you put me in mynde of the declarations which you haue made to me at other tymes, concerning*

p Accor-  
dyng to the  
computatiō  
of the Em-  
pire, it is.  
1566.

No. 8.



cernyng the inconueniences that might rise of  
 the three poyntes which my Lord the king hath  
 commaunded, which I remember very well. And  
 since that tyme (as I am informed) the discon-  
 tentement and grudging of the people is growen  
 in such wise, as I am done to vnderstand by di-  
 uers aduertizementes commyng to me dayly  
 from good places, that the sayd inconueniences  
 are too too apparant, & euē at the poynt to shew  
 themselves to open sight. Which thyng caused  
 me to thinke it meete and expedient, to assem-  
 ble the Gouverners, (as I haue done) to be heere  
 vpon Monday or Tewsday next at the furthest,  
 that by their helpe I may consult of such things  
 as shalbe most expedient for the preuentynge of  
 the sayd inconueniences, or for the good seruice  
 of the king, for the peace and tranquillitie of  
 his countreys, and for the safety of his vassals,  
 subiectes and inhabitants. And I know your af-  
 fection and zeale towards his Maesties af-  
 fayres and in the behalfe of the Countrey to be  
 such, as I assure my selfe that you will not fayle  
 (all other matters set aside and omitted) to be  
 here at the same tyme: which I pray you hartily  
 good Cousin to do, for to that ende doth this  
 letter purposely come vnto you. And I pray the  
 Creator to graunt you the thyng that you would  
 most desire of him. From Brussels the xix. day  
 of Marche. 1565. q It was vnderwritten. Your  
 good Cousin: and signed, Margaret: and fur-  
 ther countersigned, Berty. And the superscrip-

Accor-  
 ding to the  
 comon rec-  
 ening, it  
 was. 1566.

*tion was*, To my good Cousin the Prince of Orendge, Coûtie of Nassaw, Knight of the Order, & Gouverner of the Coûtie of Burgon, and of the Countreys of Holland, Zealand, and Vtreight.

¶ Extractes of certaine points cō- No. 2.  
prized in the Iniunctions, and ordinances set forth in the lowe Countreys in the cace of Religion.

And first of the generall Iniunction or Edict made and decreed by the Emperour Charles, the. xxij. of September, the yeere. 1540. which was made after the paterne of an other as rigorous as that, whiche came foorth in the yeere. 1531.

**A**s much as in consideratiō  
aforesayd, we be desirous to  
the uttermost of our power,  
to plucke vp, abolish, & roote  
out the sayd condemned and disallowed  
sectes, errours, and heresies, & to keepe  
our subiectes in the feare of God, and in  
the true obedience of our sayd holy Ca-  
tholicke fayth, & likewise in awe of our  
mother holy Church: we vpo great and  
substantiall deliberation with our Coun-  
sell, and by the aduice of our right deare  
& welbeloued sister the Queene Dowager

ger of Hungarie and Beame. &c. Keger  
 & Gouverneste of our Countreys heere,  
 and also by the aduice of our cheef Coun-  
 selers, haue of our owne will & certeine  
 knowledge ordeined and decreed, & do  
 ordeyne and decree for an euerlastyng  
 Statute and Law, as followeth.

First, that no person of what state,  
 degree, or calling soeuer he bee, shall  
 haue, sell, giue, cary, read, preach, teach,  
 maynteine, talke of, nor dispute of, ei-  
 ther secretly or openly, the doctrines,  
 writynges, or bookes that are made or  
 shalbe made by Martin Luther, Ioh. Wic-  
 kliffe, Iohn Hulse, Marcil of Padua, Oeco-  
 lampadius, Vlrichus Zuinglius, Philip Me-  
 landthon, Frauncis Lambert, Iohn Pome-  
 rane, Otto Brunfelsius, Iustus Ionas, Iohn  
 Puper, and Gorcian, or by any other au-  
 thors of their sect, or by any other here-  
 ticks and sectaries: or the errours dis-  
 allowed by the Church, or the doctrine  
 of their adherentes, fauozers, and com-  
 plices: no nor enen the new Testamēt  
 Printed by Adrian of Bergues, Chris-  
 stopher of Arimōd, and Iohn Zell, [nor  
 theis Latin bookes followyng, videl.]  
 The phrases of holy Scripture, The Inter-  
 pretation of the Chaldey names, Vadians  
 Abridgement of Topographie, The Para-  
 lippomenon or Chronicles of thyngs wor-  
 thy



thy of remembrance, The story of the originall of the Garmanes, The Cômétaries vppon the Poetry of Pythagoras, Walcuroioze Commentaries vpon Aristotles Phisikes, The workes of Eobanus Hessus, Griphies Prayers vpo the Lordes Prayer, The Method vpo the cheef places of Scripture, The Cathechizin of Erasmus Sarcerius, The same mans Scholies vpon the Gospels of Mathew Marke & Luke, The same mās Postilles vppon all the Sondayes Gospelles through the whole yeere, Also of the manner of learnyng Diuinitie, Of the framying of a mans lyfe, and of the reformation of manners. Christopher Hegendorphius exhortation, The same mans instruction of Christen youth, with an exposition of the Lordes Prayer, Philip Melancthons abridgement of Chronicles both in Latin and in Duche, Sebaştian Munsters Annotations vppon Saint Mathewes Gospell, and the Enterludes played not lōg ago in our Citie of Gaunt by the nineten places of Rhetoricke, vppon this question, what is the greatest comforte to a man that is at the point to dye: nor any other bokes written or printed within theis xvij. yeeres last past, without declaryng of the author, printer, tyme, and place nor likewise the new Testament, the Gospels, the Epistles, the prophecies, or any other

ther bookes in Frenche or Duche con-  
teining Prefaces, Prologes, Appostils,  
or glozes, sauoryng of doctrines disal-  
lowed, repugnant, or cōtrary to our ho-  
ly Catholicke fayth, or to the Sacra-  
mentes, or to the commaundementes of  
God or of the Church.

Also that no man shall peynt or cause  
to bee peynted or portrayed, or holde,  
haue, or keepe any Images, portraitu-  
res, or pictures, to the reproche or dis-  
gracyng of the virgin Marie, or of the  
saints that are canonized by the church:  
nor also breake, deface, or pull down the  
Images made or hecrafter to be made  
in the honor or remembrance of them:  
& that if any body haue any such books  
peyntyngs in his hands or keepyng, he  
burne them incontinently.

Upō peyne (in case that any be found  
to haue done agaynst any of the pointes  
aboue declared,) to be executed, that is  
to say, the mē by the sword, and the wo-  
men \* by the pit so they do not maintein  
& defend their errours: but if they stand  
in those errours and heresies, then they  
shalbe executed by the fire: and in all ca-  
ces their goodes shalbee confiscate to  
our behofe.

And we will and declare, that from  
the day wherin the said heretickes shal-  
be

\* That is  
to wyt, by  
burnyng of  
them quick.

be false into their errors, they shalbe  
 vnable to dispoze of their goodes: and  
 all alienatiōs, giftes, cōueyances, sales,  
 lettyngs ouer, Testamentes, & last be-  
 questes by will, made by them after  
 such tymes, shalbe as nothyng and of  
 none effect.

Furthermoze we obtaine and decree  
 it for a perpetuall statute and law, as a-  
 fore, that no man shall presume to hold  
 or suffer in his house or els where, any  
 conuenticles or meetynge, or to talke  
 or dispute of holy Scripture, (specially  
 in matters hard and doutfull) or to read  
 the same holy Scripture to others, or  
 to preach it: vnlesse they be Diuines al-  
 lowed by some famous Vniuersitie, or  
 adinitted thereto by the ordinarie of the  
 place: vnder like penaltie.

Also that no man shal print or cause  
 to be printed, or otherwise put forth a-  
 ny booke, that treateth or maketh men-  
 tion of the holy Scripture, or that in a-  
 ny wise toucheth our holy sayth and the  
 constitutiōs of the Church: vnlesse it be  
 first overseene by the ordinarie of the  
 place, & that he haue gotten our graunt &  
 licence to print it: vnder like penaltie.

Moreouer we ordeine & decree, that  
 no man of what state or calling so euer  
 he be, shall presume to lodge, receiue, in-



receiue, or fauour any heretickes, or Anabaptistes, & that all such as shall haue lodged, receiued, interteined, or fauored them, knowyng them to be such, shall come and bewray & accuze them to the officer of the place (if it be a priuiledged place): or els (if it be not) to the cheef officer of the good towne next to the place where they dwell: vnder peyne of being punished as heretickes.

And bycause we be desirous to come to the knowledge of the sayd heresies, errours, and abuses: we enact & decree, that the accuzers & bewrayers of them shall haue the one moitie of their goods that are so bewrayed and accuzed before their misusage do appere, & they dewly conuicted thereof: conditionally that the sayd goodes passe not the summe of one hundred poun des Flemishe of the great: for if they passe that summe, then shall they haue but the tenth penny of that which the said goodes amount vnto aboue it, the costes and charges in the law first deducted.

And to y end that our Iustices & Officers which shall haue apprehended the sayd Heretickes or Anabaptistes, may not haue occasion to beare with them, their complices and fauours, or to punish them lesse than they deserue, vnder  
pre-

pretence that the punishmentes may  
 seeme to great and rigorous, & to haue  
 bin set but onely for the terrour of offē-  
 ders, as we see it cometh ostentymes  
 to passe. We will and commaunde that  
 whosoever violateth this our ordināce,  
 by keepyng, pryncyng, sellyng, distribu-  
 ryng, or settyng forth any bookes, wri-  
 tynges, or images, that are hereticall or  
 offēsiue, or otherwise against the points  
 aboue declared, or any of thē: shalbe pu-  
 nished and corrected indifferently by the  
 peynes afore mencioned. Forbiddyn all  
 our Judges, Officers, and Justices, to  
 alter, qualifie, or chaunge the same pu-  
 nishmentes in any maner of wise: and  
 [chargyng them] onely to denounce the  
 sayd penalties and punishmentes vpon  
 them, as soone as they shall perceiue  
 them to haue violated any of the sayde  
 points: vnder penalty to be depriued of  
 their roynes & offices, & to be denoun-  
 ced vnable to beare any Office for euer  
 after, and moreouer to be corrected for it  
 at our pleasure. And we commaund all  
 our Officers to aduertize vs of our sayd  
 sister the Queene, when our Judges,  
 Headborowes, Aldermē, or any others  
 hauyng the examination of such offē-  
 ders, do make nyce to follow this our  
 decree, and to denounce the sayd penal-

ties : that we may proccede agaynst the  
by the selfe same punishmentes.

Furthermore we decree, that if any  
man chaunce to know any place where  
any hereticke or Anabaptist doth secret-  
ly lurke : he shalbe bound to bewray it  
to the officer of that place, vpon peyne  
to be taken for a fauorier, harbrowgher,  
and adherent of the heresse therewith  
the person so hidden is infected, and to  
bee punished with the same peyne that  
the hidden person should bee punished  
withall, if he were caught.

And bycause that heeretofore when  
some Hereticke or Anabaptist being  
appeached and cited, haue gotten them  
selues out of the Countrey, and shynke  
aside or hid them selues in some secret  
place ; there could bee no proccedyng a-  
gaynst the by any other conuenient pu-  
nishment tha onely by banishment : and  
that such heeryng that their complies &  
adherentes were dead or executed, so as  
it was not possible for y officer to proue  
sufficiently that they were rebaptized or  
hereticke, did vpon hope & confidence  
therof some forth dayly, and make lute  
to get leaue to purge them selues ; or to  
get some other benefite of law : whiche  
thyng ministred occasiō of delay of Ius-  
tices, and made the hereticke and Ana-  
baptistes



baptistes bold to retorne into our countreys, and there to sow abroad their errors & false doctrines, to the great perill, offence, & preiudice of our sayd countreys & subiectes: we myndyng to provide for it, do forbid the cheef Iustices of our hygh Courtes, & the Presidents of our prouinciall Councelles, to giue, graunt, or cause to be sealed to such as are suspected & appeached for heretikes or Anabaptistes, and hauyng bin once cyted by order of law, appeere not, but suffer theselues to be banished through their owne wilfulnesse,) any protection of law to stand to their purgation, or otherwise to frequent our sayd countreys. And we denounce, that such fugitiues & banished folke shalbe taken for convicted, & that processe shall go out agaynst them vnder the peynes aforesayd.

Besides this, we forbid all men of what state or condition so euer they be, (vnder payne of beyng taken for fanners of heretikes,) to offer vnto vs or our counsellors, hauyng power to pardon, any Supplicatiō for the sayd fugitiues, banished men, rebaptized, or otherwise defamed, or hauyng bin noted of the sayd disallowed sectes, to obtayne grace for their misusages, errors, and heresies: for we wyl not that any grace

shalbe graunted them, vppon payne of being disabled for euer, to haue or execute any charge or office in our Countreys, and moreouer to be punished at our pleasure. Likewise also we forbyd all Aduocates, Proctors, Clerkes, Apprentizes, and Sollicitors, to indite, write, or preferre any such Supplications vnder like payne.

† All whiche poyntes and articles we wyl and commaund to be kept and obserued inuiolably for euer, accordyng to their forme and tenor. And to the ende that euery man may haue knowledg thercof, we wyl you to proclayme all these thinges incontinently and without delay, in the places where Proclamations are wont to be made: and that you proccede and cause others to proccede agaynst such as withstande or disobey, with all rigorous execution of the penalties afoze declared, and without any fauor, dissembling, or winkyng at them: notwithstanding any replication or appeale, made or to be made, or any Priuiledges, Ordinances, Statuts Customs, or vsages to the contrary: al which, our wyl and pleasure is to haue to take no place in this behalte: but of our owne certayne knowledg, authoritic, and full power, we haue disannul-  
led

led them, and doo disanul them by these presents.

And for the performance of that which is saide, and of the thinges dependyng therupon, we giue vnto you our Iustices, Officers, and men of Lawe, to whō this case belongeth, full power, authoritie, and speciall Commission: commaundyng and charging euery man to obey you, and to attend diligently vpon you, in the dooing therof: For so is our pleasure.

¶ Secondly, of the perpetuall Decree and Edict, ordeined and set foorth the. 29. day of Aprill. 1550. after the making of other rigorous Decrees, in the yeares. 1544. and. 1546. No. 9.

¶ First, that no person of what estate or condition soeuer he be, shal print, write, copie out, wittingly haue vnder hym, receyue, beare about, keepe, conceale, holde vnder hym, sell, buy, giue, distribute, sow abroad, or let fall in Churches, streetes, or other places, any bookes or writyngs compyled by Martin Luther, Iohn Oecolampadius, Vlrichus Zuinglius, Martin Bucer, Iohn Calvin, or other heretikes and authors of their sectes, or of other wicked & false L. iij. serres,



c In that they forbid in manner al Bibles & Testamentes, sauing the Latin ones: and therein are cōteyned an infinite number of bookes, & among other, the bookes of Melancthon, Carlostadius, Coruine, Sacer, Lambert, Bullinger, Agrippa, Wickliffe, Husse, Pomerane, Ionas, Pupper, Brennius, Spangenberg, Rinius, Epin, Martir, Vrbane, Musculus, and Bucer.

sectes, disallowed by the holy Church, or of their complices, adherents, and fauourers, whiche are gone astray from our holy Catholike sayth, more largely specified in a certaine Declaration, and Register ioyned herunto, newly made at our commaundemēt, by the Chancelour and the Students of the vniuersitie of our Citie of Louane, dated the xvi. of March last, which we auow our selues to haue authorized, and doo authorize it: willyng and commaunding that it be followed, maynteyned, and published with these our present Letters: and also that no other bookes made or printed, or that shalbe made or printed hereafter, (be suffered) without declaryng the author, Printer, tyme, and place.

✠✠ Nor also paynt, or cause to be paynted, sell, or set to sale, haue, holde, or kepe any Images, Pictures, or figures reprochful to the virgin Mary, or to the Saintes that are Canonized by the holy Church, or to the state of the Clergie: nor breake, deface, or pull downe the Images and Pictures that are made in the honoz of them.

✠✠ Nor in their houses or els wher hold or suffer to be held, any secret conuenticies or vndue assemblies, nor come  
in

in place where the sayde heretikes and seducers doo secretly and priuily sowe and teach theire errours, rebaptize, and make many conspiracies agaynst holy Church and the common weale.

Furthermore, we forbyd all men, as well laye folke as others, to talke or to reason, openly or secretly, of the holy scripture, specially in great and doubtfull matters: or to reade or teache the holy Scripture to others: vnesse they be Diuines brought vp in Diuinitie, & allowed by some famous Vniuersitie, or admitted thereto by the Ordinarie of the place: or finally to preach, defende, alledge, or mainteyn openly or secretly, any doctrine of the sayd Authours.

Uppon payne (in case that anye bee founde to haue incountred or done agaynst any of the poyntes aboue mentioned) of being punished as seditious persons and disturblers of the state and common weale, and to be executed for suche: that is to wytte, the men by the sword, and the womē by the pye, so they do not vphold and defend their errors: but if they stande in their errors, opinions, and heresies, then they shalbe executed by the fire, and in all cases their goodes shalbe seized, confiscate, & forfeited to our behoofe, and they shal not  
be

be able to dispoze of their goodes from the day that they shal haue done against our ordinance, statute, and prohibition, or bin falne into the said errors. And all alienations, gyftes, conueyances, sales, settinges ouer, Testamentes, and last willes, made or passed by them after the sayd day, shalbe as none, and nothyng worth, and of none effect nor force.

Further, we decree, and prohibite euery person ( of what state or calling so euer he be ) to presume to harbor, receiue into his house, interteyne, furnishe, or succour with any victuals, money, apparell, or other necessities, or to relecue with his goodes, or otherwise wittingly to fauour any that hath bin counted or suspected for an heretike: and that al such as shall lodge, harbour, receyue, or keepe company with them ( knowing them to be suche ) shalbe bounde to be- tray and declare them to the Inquisitor, or to the Officer of the place, if the place be priuiledged, or if it be not, to the chiefe Officer of the good towne that is next the place where they dwell: vnder paine ( if they make default ) to be punished as fauourers of the said heretikes.

Item, we wyll, ordeyne, and decree, that no man of what state or calling so euer he be, shalbe admytted or receyued into



into any towne or village of our Countreys hereawayes, to dwell there, vnlesse he bring a Certificat of his conuersation frō the Curate of the place where he dwelt last: which Certificat he shalbe bounde to exhibite and deliuer into the handes of the chiefe Officer of the Towne or village where he intendeth to lyue: vnder payne, that they whiche bring not such certificat, shall not be admitted to dwell there, but shalbe taken for suspected. And we commaunde our Officers to lay diligently for inforinations against them, & to proceede therein as shalbe expedient. And it shall not be lawfull for our sayd Officers to giue any respite or protection to such persons.

Also we wyll that all our Iustices, officers, & men of Law, together with our vassalles and subiectes, Lords temporall, and high Iustices, shall vppon payne of forseytynge of their Offices, Iurisdiccions, and high Iusticeships, or other penaltie, at our pleasure, accordyng as the case shall require: be bound to inquire diligently of them, and to proceede, or cause their vnder Officers to proceede againste all suche persons, of what state or calling so euer they be, specially in the poynt of incounterynge of our saide ordinance, and in matters  
fal-

o. Whiche  
was very  
large and  
maruelous  
rigorous.

falling within the compasse of their ex-  
amination, and dependyng vpon their  
temporal iurisdiction. And further that  
at the request and desire of the Inquisi-  
tors of the faith, and of the Bishops or  
Ordinary Judges, (being mynded to pro-  
ceede together or as they chance to meet,  
against any man, because the thing con-  
cerneth the Ecclesiasticall crime of here-  
sie) they shall minister and giue them al  
the ayde, fauour, and assistance that they  
can, for the executyng and performyng  
of their charges, and also for the appre-  
hending, imprisonyng, and safekeeping  
of such as they find to be infected, accor-  
dyng to the instructions that the In-  
quisitors haue of vs, and the commissi-  
on that we haue caused to be graunted  
vnto them to the same end. The which  
Officers, Justices, and vassals, we co-  
maund to minister the said ayde and assi-  
stence without any delaye or lingryng,  
vnder pretence of any sute hangyng, pre-  
uention, or other occasion what soeuer:  
Chargyng our Attorneys generall, and  
their deputies, to proceede against such  
as are negligent, & to procure sentence  
against them, to the end they may be de-  
prived of their roomes, offices, and au-  
thoritie of iurisdiction, & haue such other  
punishmet as shalbe found requisit ac-

according to the state of the case.

Item, that whosoever knoweth or vnderstādeth of any that is infected of heresie, shalbe bound to betray, discover, and name hym incontinently without delay, and to giue knowledge of hym to the Inquisitors, or to the officers of the Bishops, and in their absence to the pastors and Curates of the Churches, that they maye aduertize their superiours thereof.

Againe, if any man be found to haue done against our ordinances and prohibitions, shewing hym selfe to be infected; or a fauorizer of heretikes, or a dooer of any act against our sayde ordinances and prohibitions, specially tending to offence, commotion of the people, or sedition: (we wyll) that all such as haue knowledge or vnderstandyng of them, shalbe bounde to aduertize our Attorneys therof incontinently, or their substitutes and Deputies, or the Officers of the place where such infected persons the fauorers of them, or offenders dwell. Likewise, if they perceyue where any such heretikes abyde and hyde them selues, they shalbe bound to betray them to the Officer of the place, vpon (as is sayd afore) to be taken for fauorers, reseruers, and adherentes of their heresie,



lie, & to be punished with the same punishment that the heretike or offender should be, if he were taken.

In the same Decree, among other things, are rehearsed and repeated the words and substance of the seven poyntes and articles of the Decree going afore, marked at the beginnyng with such a Crosse. ✕

No. 9.

¶ Thirdly the generall and perpetuall Decree and Edict made and proclaymed the xxv. of Septemb. 1550. and renewed and confirmed by the kyng in the yeeres, 1556. 60. 64. &c.

All the Injunctions or Edictes made for heresie, are found together in the booke of the statutes of the Low Countreys, printed at Gaunt.

**F**urthermore we prohibite all men both lay folkes and others, to talke or dispute of holy Scripture, openly or princely, specially in matters hard and doubtful; or to read, teach, declare, or expounde the same Scripture to other men unlesse they be Divinites, and graduates and allowed in Divinitie or in the Canon law by some famous Universitie, or be admitted thereto by the ordinary of the place. Provided alwayes, & this shall not be ment of such as talke or cōferre simply and sincerely together of the holy Scripture, alledgyng the expositions of the holy & allowed Doctors thereupon; but of such as mainteyne and teach propositions & doctrines that are false

false & leatwō & manifestly taken for heresies, contrary to the ordinance of our mother the holy Church, of purpose to seduce others by teachyng them thyngs forbidden. And [we prohibite them] also to preach, defend, say, or uphold, openly or secretly, any doctrine of the authours afoze named.

Under peyne, that if any be found to haue incountred or done agaynst any of the poyntes afoze declared, they shalbe punished as seditious persons and disturbers of our state, and of the quiet of the comō weale, and so executed, that is to wit, the men by the sword, & the women by the Witte, so they do not maynteine and defēd their errours; but if they stand in their opiniōs, errours, & heresies then they shalbe executed by fire: & in all caces their goodes shalbe seized, confiscate, & forseyted to our behofe.

And whereas by our late decrees in our former Iniunctions, we haue ordeyned that from the day wherein they shall haue done against them or false into the sayd errours, they shalbe vnable to dispose of their goods, and that all alienations, giftes, cōueyances, sales, settings ouer, Testaments and last willes made & passed by them after the sayd day, shal stand voyde and be of no force or effect: we

we do you to vnderstand, that our meening was not (as some haue listred to say and brute abroad) by any meanes to impeache the subiectes of our Countreys in their lawfull traffike and bargayning with straungers, so as they might not freely dispoze of their goods, accordyng to the law written, and accordyng to the customes of the place respectiue: but only to preuent such as would do it fraudulently, to eschew the penalties of our Statutes, and thereby discharge theselues of the feare whiche they ought to haue of the punishmēt for their misdealyng or doying agaynst them. And therefore our intent is onely to prouide for Gods seruice, their owne welfare, & the health of their soules, that they might not be seduced, nor directly or indirectly drawen or led into any wicked and disallowed errorrs: wherein we shewe the office of a good Prince.

Also we decree and prohibit furthermore, that no persō of what state or callinge soeuer he be, shal presume to lodge to receiue into his house, to intertein to furnish or serue with vittelles, necessities or money, or otherwise to helpe with his goods, or willingly to fauour any that haue bin takē or notoriously suspected for hereticks: and that all such  
as



as shall lodge, receiue, or interteine the,  
 (knowyng that them to be such, & that  
 they go about to seduce or infect thesel-  
 ues or others openly or priuely) shall be  
 bound to betray & preferre them to the  
 Ecclesiasticall Judges, or to the Officer  
 of the place (if it be priuiledged), or els  
 to the chief officer of the good town next  
 the place where they dwell: vpon payne  
 (for so makynge default) to be punished  
 as fauozers of heretickes. Provided al-  
 wayes that this prohibition shall not  
 touch any Inkeepers, or any other mē  
 that receiue and lodge such as come in-  
 to our sayd countreys for traffike or o-  
 ther buzinesse of their owne, of what  
 countrey so euer they be: Sauyng that  
 such straungers must not incounter this  
 our Decree, but behaue the selues so as  
 they giue no offence: and if they do, then  
 if their hostes do not betray them and  
 accuze them, as is sayd afore: we decree  
 and denounce that they shall fall into the  
 penalties aboue mentioned.

Also for as much as many of our coun-  
 tries being suspected of heresie, and spe-  
 cially of Anabaptistrie, do change their  
 dwellynge, to infect the simple people  
 in places where their disposition is vn-  
 knownen: we to provide therefore, doe  
 wyll, ordeyne, and decree, that no per-  
 son of the inhabitants of our low coun-  
 treys,

treys, of what state, qualitie, or conditiō  
 soeuer he be, shalbe admitted or recey-  
 ued into any towne or village of those  
 countreys to dwel there, vnlesse he bring  
 a certificat from the Curate of the place  
 where he dwelt afore, which Certificat  
 he shalbe bound to exhibit and deliuer  
 into the hands of the chiefe officer of the  
 towne or village where he intendeth to  
 dwel, vpon payne, that they which bring  
 not such Certificat, shal not be admitted  
 to abide there. And we charge our offi-  
 cers to seke diligent informatiō against  
 them, & to proccede as shalbe expediēt:  
 and it shal not be lawfull for our said of-  
 ficers, or for the peculiar Lordes, or for  
 their officers, to giue licence or pasport  
 to any suche persons. And as touchyng  
 merchant strangers & others that list to  
 come into our sayd low countreys, our  
 meanyng is, not to compel the to bring  
 such Certificat with the, or to exhibit it,  
 sayyng that they must lyue there accor-  
 dyng to our saide ordinaunces, & behaue  
 themselves without giuyng cause of of-  
 fence, as is sayd afore.

Also we wil that al our Iustices, offi-  
 cers, & men of law, and al our vassals &  
 subiects, Lords tēporal & high Iustices  
 shal (vpon forfeiture of their offices, iu-  
 risdictions, & Iusticeships, or vpon other  
 penaltie, at our pleasure, according to y:  
 state

state of the case) be bound to make diligent serch, & to procede, or to cause their officers to procede, to the verifing of y<sup>e</sup> matters aforesaid against al persons, of what state or calling soeuer they be, specially in the thyngs that cōcerne the incounteryng of our said ordinaunces, & in the cases that belong to their examination, and depende vpon their temporall iurisdiction.

Moreover, when the Ecclesiasticall Judges meane to proccede against any man, because he is faulty in the ecclesiasticall crime of heresie: they shall require of the officers of our cheefe Courtes or prouincial Councels, to haue some one of their company or other assistant appointed thē to be at the informations & proceedings which they intend to prefer agaynst suche as are suspected. And we wil, cōmand, & inioyne al our officers, Iustices, & vassals, to yeeld & to giue to the said Judges, & their fellow Cōmissioners, all the helpe, fauour, furtherance, & assistance that they can, for the executing & performing of their charge, & also in the apprehendynge imprisonynge, & keepynge of such as they shall finde infected, without delay or impediment vnder pretence of any sute hanging, preuention or other occasiō whatsoever vnder peyne to bee corrected at our pleasure.

M. ij.

And



And we commaund our Attourneyes generall and their deputies, to proccede agaynst such as are negligent, & to procure sentence vpon them, to the end they may be depriued of their rooines & of fices, & of the priuiledges of their iurisdictiones, and receiue such other punishments as shalbe founde meete according as the case requireth.

Item, that all such as know or vnderstand of any that are infected with heresy, shalbe bound to bewray, utter, name, & geue knowledge of them immediately without delay, to the ecclesiasticall iudges, the Bishops officers, and others to whom the matter belongeth. Also that if any man be found to haue don against our decrees & prohibitiōs, shewing himselfe to be infected or a fauor of heretickes, or to haue done any act agaynst our ordinances & commaundementes, specially tending to offence, comotion of the people, or seditiō: they that know the or vnderstand of the, shalbe bound to giue intelligence of the out of hand to our Attourneys, or to their deputies & vnder officers, or to the officers of y place, where such infected persons offenders or fauorers of them do wel, & that vnder peyne of beyng punished at our pleasure.

Likewise if they know y place where any such hereticke lyeth hid, they shalbe bound

bound to betwray him to the officer of y<sup>e</sup> same place vpon payne to be taken (as is sayd afore) for fauourers, receiuers, & adherentes of the heresie, & to be punished with the same punishment that the hereticke or offender should be, if he were apprehended.

And to the end that the said Iustices, & officers which shal haue aprehended such heretikes, Anabaptists, & trasgressors of our said ordinañces & comaundemēts, may haue no occasion to beare with thē, their complices, & fauourers, vnder pretence y<sup>e</sup> the punishments may seeme to great & rigorous, & set out but onely to terrifie offenders & euil doers: nor also to punish them lesse greuously thā they haue deserved, as hath bin found to haue bin done oftentymes hertofore: we will that such as shal wittingly haue done agaynst this ordinance, by keeping to thē selues, or by printyng, sellyng, distributyng, or puttyng forth any bookes, writings, or pictures that are heretical and offēsiue, or otherwise agaynst the points hertofore declared or any of thē: shal be really punished, corrected and chastized with the punishmentes aboue mētioned.

Prohibityng all Iudges, Iustices, & officers, together with our vassals and subiectes, Lordes temporal hauyng, authoritie of Iustice, & their officers, to al-

ter, mitigate, or chaunge the sayd punish-  
 ments, in any wise & comaūding thē that  
 as soone as any rōstandyng appereth,  
 they vtter & denounce the sayd punish-  
 ment simply accordyng to this decree: v-  
 pō peyne to be rigorously punished, vn-  
 lesse that for some great & notable consi-  
 deratiōs, y iudges finde some hardnesse  
 in the case about the pzeize execution of  
 the punishmēt that is appointed by our  
 sayd decrees against the trāsgressour: in  
 which case, notwithstanding, they shall  
 not of their owne authoritie pzoceede to  
 any qualification, but be bounde to cary  
 or sēd the same crime in all proces faith-  
 fully, folded vp & scaled, to the cheef or  
 prouinciall Couंसell, vnder the Jurisdi-  
 ction whereof they shall resort together  
 to be there looked vpo, ouersene, & cou-  
 seled, whither there be fall any alteratiō  
 or mitigatiō of the said penalties, or no.  
 And if any of our sayd Counsellors finde  
 that any alteration or mitigation is re-  
 quisite by good Justice & accordyng to  
 right and reason, wherewith we charge  
 their cōsciences: In such case they may  
 be well aduized therof, & put it in wri-  
 tyng, & sēd it whole backe agayne to the  
 said Justices & officers to dispatch & de-  
 termine y case accordyng therunto. Ne-  
 uertheles we charge & comaund thē ex-  
 pressly, yea & euen vpon peyne to be cor-  
 rected



rected & punished at our pleasure, that they cause not such cōsultatiō to be had, without great & apparāt cause: but that they deale (as farre as they can, even to the uttermost) accordyng to the tenor of this present decreet.

In the same Edict, amōg other thyngs, were inserted word for word, the three first points or Articles cōtained in the former Edict, and marked there at their begynnynges with a dubble Crosse. ††

Likewise there were rehersed and repeated the wordes and substance of all the pointes and Articles noted and marked in the sayd Edict of 1547, with a single Crosse, sauyng that whiche hath a starre added to the Crosse thus. †\*

¶ The Articles of Agreement made with the noblemen that were the Confederates by the Regēt in the kyngs name the xxiiij. day of August, and afterward put at large into hir letters of Assurance set downe heeretofore pag. 99. where the begynnyng of it is touched also.

**H**er highnes caused the gētleme that had put vp the supplicatiō vnto hir, to returne to the xx. of August to receiue answer to their demaundes duryng which time it fell out so wel, that she receiued letters from the kynges maiestie whereby she was the better inabled to giue them certeine & absolute answer.

And first of all she declareth, that his

maiestie hauing regard of þe thyngs that hir highnesse hath shewed vnto him; is contented vpon the aduice of his lords, & knights of the Order, & others as wel of his Counsels of estate, as of his pryuy Counsell, that the Inquisition whereof they complayne, shall cease.

Secondly his maiestie consenteth that a new Edict should be made, but he was not resolved whether it should be done by meane of the states in general, or no. Neuerthelesse hir highnesse hoped, that she should shortly haue his full resolution therein; accordyng as his maiestie had writte to her. And she would willingly doo hir indeuer stil at al tymes, that his maiestie might voutsafe to cōdescend to þe thynges aforesayd, as he had done by his letters agayne.

And as touchyng the assurance wherof they made mention in their last sute: her highnes was determined to giue it them, so farre forth as lay in her: And as now she was able to put the out of all doubt, for as much as his maiestie had consented hereunto, & giuen her authoritie cōcernyng the maner & forme of it, as shee should fynd it cōuenient. wherfore shee said & declared vnto them, that his maiesty abhorryng nothyng more than rigor, & beyng desirous by his accustomed clemencie to put them all out of  
sus

suspicion, whiche might thynke that he was misinforme of the, & to discharge the of y<sup>e</sup> mistrust which had caused those troubles, was contented that her highnesse should for the pacifying of al inconveniences, make the al kynds of letters that might serue to that purpoze, and in such forme as shee should perceiue to be mooste for their safetie, for what soeuer was past: Conditionally that henceforth thei behaue theselues like good & loyal vassals & subiects towards his maiesty, which thynge her highnesse hopeth that they wyll not faile to do, as becommeth them, like as shee was ready to accept their presentment.

And now, for as much as they haue ful & whole satisfacciō made vnto them: her highnesse wyl not refuse y<sup>e</sup> offer that they had made diuers times, cōcerning their imploying of the selues in the seruice of his maiesty & of her highnesse, for the benefit, rest, & tranquillitie of y<sup>e</sup> countrey, whereto the duetie of faithfulnessse & of nature bindeth the. According wherunto shee intendeth that they shall giue her their faith, first that they shal nother do nor procure directly nor indirectly, any thynge agaynst his maiesty, his states countreys, & subiects, but that they shal imploy the selues wholy to al maner of thyngs that good & loyal vassals & subiectes



iects ought to performe towards their soueraigne Lord & natural prince.

In doyng wherof they shal to the vttermost of their power, saythfully helpe to stay the present troubles, comotions, & vprores, and to restraine the insurrection of the people: that the sackings, pillaging, & pulling down of churches, chapels, cloysters, & religious houses may cease in al places: yea & they shall helpe to punish such as haue comitted such sacriledges, outrages, & abominations: & see that no wrong be done to any ecclesiasticall persons, ministers of Justice, Gentlemen, or any other of the kynges subiectes and vassalles.

Item, they shal earnestly indenuor, that y<sup>e</sup> weapōs which y<sup>e</sup> people haue takē in hād (where througħ so many mischēses haue bin comitted, and may be comitted hereafter) may be layd away incōtinētly. Also they shal do the best they can by al good seruis, to prohibit preachyng in places where none hath bin afore: and to prohibit al force, & cause of offence, & publike disorder where preaching is vsed already. Moreover, they shal indenuor and put to their helpe, accordyng as they are bound by oth & fealty towards his maiesty, to the expullying and represyng of al strangers that are enemyes & rebels to his maiestie & the Countrey.

Final

Finally they shal do their indeuor, according to the credit which they haue among such as are now rizen vp for religion or otherwise, to cause them to submyt them selues to the thyngs that bys maiesty shal decre by the general aduice of his estates, for the furtherance of religion, & the quietnes and tranquillitie of the same. Given at Brusselles, the. 23. of August. 1566. Undersigned: Margaret.

¶ A copie of the letter which the Confederates sent backe in answere to the Regent. No. 4.

**W**E Lewis Countie of Nassaw, Eustace of Fiennes Lord of Esquerds, Charles of Reuel, Lord of Andrignyes, Barnard of Merode Lord of Rumen, Charles of Vander Noot Lord of Risoire, George of Mountegnien Lord of Noyelles, Martin of Sarclas Lord of Tilly, Philip Vander Meeren Lord of Sterbek, Philip of Marbais lord of Louuerual, Iohn of Mountegnien lord of Vilers, Charles of Lieuin Lord of Famars, Francis of Haefte, and Iohn Sauvage Lord of Escambecke, as wel in our own names, as deputies & committies for all the rest of the Lords & gentlemen confederates, that dyd put vp the supplicatiō to the kings maiesty in the moneth of April last, con=

cernyng the Inquisition & Iniunctions for  
heresie: Forasmuch as this day we haue  
receiued certaine letters patents fro the  
right high & excellēt princeſſe ꝑ duchesse  
of Parma & Pleasāce, Regēt & Gouer-  
nesse for ꝑ kyng in theis cōtreyes heere,  
authorized therunto by the king our so-  
uerain Lord & naturall prince, in maner  
& forme folowynge, that is to say, Marga-  
ret by the grace of God Duchesse of Parma  
& Pleasance, Regēt &c. as in ꝑ letters of  
assurance aboue rehearsed: We do you to  
vnderſtād, that according to the same let-  
ters of assurāce, we haue promised & do  
promis solemnly by our sayth and in the  
word of Gentlemen, & as trew & loyall  
vassals & subiectes of his maiestie, That  
we will obserue, mainteine, & fulfill, all  
maner of pointes & articles aforesayd: &  
as well on our owne behalfe as on the  
behalfe & in the name of all ꝑ rest whole  
deputies we be, & whose power, cōmis-  
siō, authoritie, & cōmāndemēt we haue,  
we giue & will giue our wordes, that  
both we and the rest of our confederates  
shal keepe, mainteine, and performe the  
same: in respect wherof we hold our for-  
mer cōfederacie as voyde, broken, & vn-  
done, so farre forth & so long as the fore-  
said assurance promised by hir highnesse  
in the kings maiesties name, shal hold.  
In witnesse wherof we haue signed  
theiꝝ



theis presets with our names. Made at  
 Brussels the xxv. day of August. 1566.  
 Signed vnderneath thus: Lewes of Nas-  
 saw, Eustace of Fiénes, Bernard of Merode,  
 C. of Vander Noot, Charles of Reuel, Ge-  
 orge of Moūteigny, Philip vander Meeren,  
 Philip of Marbais lord of Louerual, I. Moū-  
 tegny Lord of Vilers, Charles Lieuen Lord  
 of Famars, Iohn Sauage, Mart. Tserclas, and  
 Fraūcis of Haesté. And vpo the backside  
 was written. This present xxv. of August.  
 1566. the deputies and cōmitties for the  
 Lordes & gētleme cōfederate, named in  
 the sayd writyng (sauyng the L. Tilly &  
 Fraūcis of Haesten which were absent)  
 tooke their soleme & requisite othe as  
 well for theselues as for & on the behalf  
 of the rest of y cōfederates, to mainteine  
 obserue & perforce, all & euery poynt &  
 article contained in the sayd writyng, in  
 the hands of y most honorable the prin-  
 ces of Orēdge & Sawre, the Count of  
 Horne, the Lord of Hachicourt, and the  
 Cōsiller of Assouleuille assigned ther-  
 to by her highnes. Subscribed thus: In  
 my presence. And signed: Of Onerloepe.  
 Beneath that was writtē again: The. 27  
 day of the said moneth of August, the said  
 yeare. 1566. the said lord of Tilly & Fra-  
 cis of Haesten, after the readyng of the  
 sayd writyng vnto them, haue also set to  
 their names & scales, & taken the oth a-  
 boue-

bound in the handes of the most honorable the prince of Bawre, the Counties of Manusseld, & of Horne, the Lord of Daehicourt, & the Counsellor of Assouleville assigned thereto by her highnes, as is sayd afore. Subscribed: In my presence also. And signed: Of Overloep.

*A copie of the Letter closed by the Regent, and sent heereupon to the Counsellors and townes of the low Countreys.*

No. 4.

**M**Argaret by the grace of God Duchesse of Parma and Pleasance. &c. Regent and gouvernesse. &c.

*Right deare and welbeloued, I wyll not omit to let you vnderstand how my Lord the king aduertiseth vs by his letter of the. 13. of the last moneth, of his resolution concernyng the things wherein I asked his counsell and aduice in the moneth of May last. Wherof his maiesty could not giue answer any sooner, because he taryed for the comyng of the Marques of Berghes, and the Baron of Mountegny sent vnto hym by vs, vpon whose report al the cheefe handling of the matter consisted. And truly as touching the Inquisition, his maiesty taking regard to the thinges which I informed hym of by the aduice of the knights of the Order, and of the counsellors both of estate, and of the priny counsel, being with vs, is contented that it shall cease. Likewise also as touchyng the Inuictions in the case of heresies he is contented that newe shalbe made, so as respect be had to the maintenance of the holy catholic faith &c. of his maiesties authority. But*

he is not yet resolved whether that shalbe done by the states generally, or otherwise. And therefore I haue written very earnestly vnto him againe, and I looke shortly for his maiestyes good wyll and pleasure in that behalfe.

Moreover, wheras I informed his maiesty of the doubt which the Gētleme that preferred the Supplication to vs in Aprill last, to the ende aforesaid, dyd cast, lest his maiesty should mislike of theyr sure, and of the confederacie that they made among them selues for the same, which doubt might haue caused distrust, & cōsequently the trouble and vnquietnes of the Countrey: his maiesty intendyng to deale according to his accustomed clemencie, and abhorryng all rigor as much as may be, is cōtented that (if we see that his so doing may cause al vnquietnes to cease, as we be promised that it shall) we shall make requisite assurance, in such maner & forme as we perceyue to be expedient. Which thing is don, so as nothing shalbe imputed to to the by his maiesty nor by vs, for aught that is past: cōditionally that they behaue theselues hereafter lik good and loyall subiectes & vassals of his maiesty: wherupō al their cōfederacies must be void, broke of, & vndon, so long as the things that I haue promised the in the kings name do hold & stād firme as you may see by the acts passed therupō.

And we aduertise you further, that the kings maiesty intendeth and purposeth to mainteyne the true ancient Catholike Religion: and that his gouernors, cōsellers, officers, and magistrats shall



shal do their indenor to the full, that there may  
no inconvenience happen in the meane while, & yf  
he come hyther to take order: which thyng he  
promyseth to do shortly, if he can by any meanes  
possible.

Of al which thynges as seruyng to the pacifi-  
cation and quieting of these present troubles, as  
wel in Religion as in the common weale: We  
thought good to aduertise you, that ye might  
indenor your selues so much the more to do your  
dueties as becommeth his maiesties true and  
faythful subiectes, and also folowe his holy and  
good meanynge, in resistyng the froward and se-  
ditionous disturbers of the common weale, in  
maintenance of the Catholike fayth, and in his  
maiesties seruice, to the quietnesse and tranqui-  
litye of the Countrey and your selues. And so  
right deare and welbeloued, our Lord haue you  
in his holy keepyng. From Bruselles, the .xxv.  
day of August. 1586.

FINIS.

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